

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY



GOVT & POLITICS

JAISHANKAR: ERA OF UNINTERRUPTED DIALOGUE WITH PAKISTAN IS OVER

BENGAL GOVERNOR MEETS SHAH AS BJP CALLS FOR ACTION
PAGES 8 & 6

APRIL-JUNE RATE BELOW RBI'S ESTIMATE OF 7.1%

Farm, services slowdown push GDP growth rate to five-quarter low of 6.7%

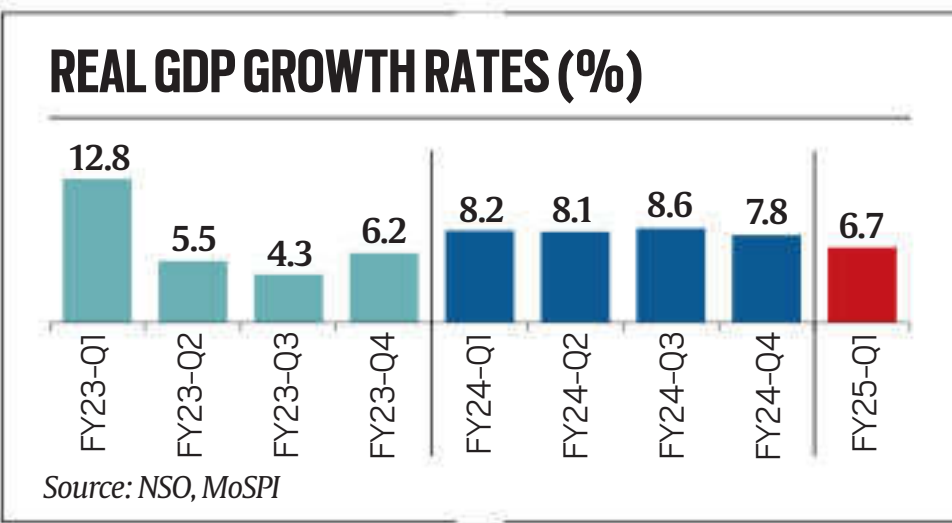
Elections brought down govt capital spending and investment, says CEA

AANCHAL MAGAZINE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

INDIA'S REAL Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth slipped to a five-quarter low of 6.7 per cent in April-June 2024-25 due to slower growth in agriculture, government spending and services, data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) on Friday showed.

The quarterly GDP growth rate for Q1, which fell below the 7-per-cent mark for the first time in a year, came in much lower than the projection of 7.1 per cent by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). It was much lower than 8.2 per cent in the year-ago quarter, and sequentially too, it was lower than 7.8 per cent growth seen in the previous quarter (January-March 2024).

Manufacturing and construction sectors, however, firmed up with growth rates of 7 per cent and 10.5 per cent, respectively, in April-June as against 5 per cent and 8.6 per cent in the year-ago period.



Public spending powered down, especially during the election phase, with government final consumption expenditure contracting by 0.2 per cent in April-June. There was positive sign on the consumption front with Private final consumption expenditure (PFCE) — the proxy for consumption demand — picking up pace to record a seven-quarter high growth of 7.4 per cent in Q1 as against 5.5 per cent in the year-ago period.

Chief Economic Advisor V Anantha Nageswaran said the **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

FRAMING OF CHARGES ORDERED

Cong's Tytler to face murder trial, 40 years after anti-Sikh riots

Charges being pressed in mob attack on Delhi gurdwara that killed 3 men



Amit Mehra

NIRBHAY THAKUR
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

NEARLY 40 years after three men were killed by a mob which torched the Pul Bangash Gurdwara in Delhi during the 1984 anti-Sikh riots, Congress leader Jagdish Tytler, now 80, is set to face trial for charges including hate speech and murder.

On Friday, Judge Rakesh Syal of the Rouse Avenue court ordered framing of charges against Tytler under Indian Penal Code sections murder (302); abetment (109); rioting (147); promoting enmity between groups (153A) and being a part of unlawful assembly (143).

After initially filing a closure report, giving a clean chit to



Delhi's Pul Bangash Gurdwara on Friday; (left) Jagdish Tytler

Tytler, the CBI was directed to reopen the investigation against him in 2007. On two other occasions, in 2009 and 2014, the CBI closed the case against Tytler but the court refused to accept the report. In April 2023, the agency said it had fresh evidence against Tytler — a corroboration of his voice sample with a particular speech he made 39 years ago.

Senior Advocate HS Phoolka, appearing for complainant Lakhwinder Kaur, wife of Badal **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

Minister gets govt to allot Navi Mumbai land meant for OBCs to trust that he heads

Ready to return land to any entity that can build centre for banjaras: Rathod

ALOK DESHPANDE
MUMBAI, AUGUST 30

ASHIV SENA Minister in Eknath Shinde's Cabinet in Maharashtra got the state government in November 2023 to allot a parcel of land in Navi Mumbai to his own trust by the city planning agency Cidco for a community centre for the banjara people, who are included in the Other Backward Class list.

While the demand for a community centre was first made in November 2022 by the All India Banjara Seva Sangh (AIBSS), an organisation representing the banjara community, the state government allotted 5,600 sq m land a year later to Shri Sant Dr Ramrao Maharaj Charitable Trust, a trust headed by Food and Drug Administration Minister Sanjay Rathod.

Documents reviewed by *The Indian Express* reveal that after Cidco identified three land parcels



Maharashtra FDA Minister Sanjay Rathod

cel options, Minister Rathod, a Sena MLA from Yavatmal, who belongs to the banjara community, took the lead in reviewing these, and shortlisted one land parcel for AIBSS. Cidco was entrusted with the responsibility to identify land for the centre.

When contacted, Rathod said he was ready to return the land and any other interested organisation can come forward to build the community centre. "There was no conflict of interest in getting the land since it was meant for a social cause and not for profit-making. Our's was one of the many organisations keen to build the community centre," he told *The Indian Express*.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

GOVT & POLITICS

PM FLAGS OFF PORT PROJECT, SAYS SORRY FOR SHIVAJI STATUE COLLAPSE
PAGE 6



Last Vistara flight November 11 as merger with AI clears final hurdle

SUKALP SHARMA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

VISTARA WILL operationally merge with the Tata group's flagship airline Air India on November 12, drawing curtains on the decade-old airline brand that made a mark for its product and service quality as India's foremost full-service carrier. The wheels for the merger were set in motion in 2022 after the Tata group acquired Air India from



Airline: Bookings will stop progressively from Sept 3

the government. "Starting 03 September 2024, customers will, progressively, no

longer be able to make bookings with Vistara for travel on or after 12 November 2024. All Vistara aircraft thereafter will be operated by Air India and bookings for the routes operated by these aircraft will be redirected to Air India's website. Vistara will continue to take bookings and operate flights as usual till 11 November 2024," Vistara said in a statement Friday.

"As the merger process moves ahead, regular updates **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

DAMINI NATH
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

ECHOING THE sentiment of the Sangh Parivar on the issue, Union Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs Tokhan Sahu has questioned why members of Scheduled Tribes (ST) who convert to another religion should continue to get the benefit of reservation.

In an interview to *The Indian Express*, Sahu, a first-time BJP MP

from Bilaspur, said only those who belong to a particular community should enjoy the benefits meant for that community as envisaged in the Constitution.

An RSS-associated tribals' group, the Janjati Suraksha Manch (JSM), has been campaigning for de-listing of converted tribals for years, and the activities picked up pace in Chhattisgarh ahead of the Assembly elections last year.

While the JSM has actively campaigned for de-listing and an



TOKHAN SAHU
UNION MINISTER OF STATE, HOUSING & URBAN AFFAIRS

RSS affiliate, Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram, has been working among tribal groups, opposing missionaries, for decades, the BJP is yet to make its stand clear on the issue.

Asked whether he agreed with the campaigns for de-listing converted tribals in his home state and if they should get reservation or not, Sahu said: "The Hindu religion never talks of anyone's religious conversion. We are believers of Sanatan **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

India says its development projects in Bangladesh have been impacted

Flagging 'political changes' in Dhaka, Jaishankar cautions: 'Can be disruptive'

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

FOR THE first time since the ouster of Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on August 5, India said Friday that the "development projects" there have been impacted due to the law and order situation in the country.

Also Friday, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, in remarks on the Bangladesh developments, underlined "we also have to recognise that there are political changes, and they can be disruptive".

Randhir Jaiswal, spokesperson for the Ministry of External Affairs, said "bilateral projects **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

EXPLAINED **E** Security concerns **Dhaka**
SINCE SHEIKH Hasina's ouster, Indian diplomatic staff have been dealing with security concerns — the Indian cultural centre there was vandalised and non-essential staff and families flown home.

PAGE 1
ANCHOR

AJOY SINHA KARPURAM
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

OVER A year since sectarian clashes tore through Manipur, the campus of the state's premier engineering college, the National Institute of Technology, is without a single Kuki-Zo student.

On May 17 this year, the Supreme Court facilitated the transfer of 38 Kuki students to other NITs across the country. The court's order states that "the displaced students who seek to avail of classes at any other NIT would be permitted to do so after taking their individual preferences, subject to administrative exigencies."

While the verdict meant that the Kuki students who fled during the violence would never be back on the campus of their home NIT, Registrar Kumukcham Tomba Singh confirmed that there have been no Kukis among the new admissions this year and the last.

"We have had two fresh batches since last year's violence, but no Kuki student has joined us," said Singh, adding that the college takes in 216 students every year, of whom around 50 per cent are from outside the state.

According to the NIT website, the institute currently has 819 students in its UG and PG courses — 421 from within the state, 397 from other states and one from abroad. Until the Supreme Court confirmed the Kuki students' transfer, they attended classes online while the rest of their batchmates returned to the campus when it reopened in August last year.

On May 3 last year, longstanding tensions between the Meitei and Kuki communities in Manipur spiralled into violence, which claimed at least 226 lives over the past year. While the hill districts of the states are largely



The institute currently has 421 students from within the state and 397 from other states, according to its website

GOVT & POLITICS



LS POLL SETBACKS REFLECTION ON MY POPULARITY, NOT THE BJP'S: BIREN P 7

Kuki-dominated, the Valley, including capital Imphal where the NIT is based, has a substan-

tial Meitei population.

On May 3, as violence raged in Imphal, with Kuki homes as the target of violence, the Kuki students on campus fled, some to the homes of government officials nearby and the others to the camp set up by the Manipur Police's 1st Battalion Manipur Rifles (1st MR) roughly 6 kilometres away.

One of the Kuki students who reached the 1st MR camp on May 3, said, "Nearly all us Kukis fled the campus that night... When we reached the camp, we had hoped to go home or get back to college the following day, but there were already thousands of people at

the camp and our hopes were shattered." Following the Supreme Court order, he has been transferred to NIT Delhi.

The students *The Indian Express* spoke to said that as the violence spread, the campus was shut and the exams which were disrupted, were held online.

But the campus was to reopen in August and Kuki students knew they didn't stand a chance of returning to Imphal. The students then approached student bodies and leaders, especially the Kuki Students Organisation (KSO), seeking to be transferred to NITs outside the state.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Kangana as Indira Gandhi In the film *Emergency*

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 30

ACTOR AND Mandi Lok Sabha MP Kangana Ranaut Friday said that the clearance for her film, *Emergency*, has been "stopped" because of "threats" to members of the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC). Until late Friday, there was no response from the CBFC to the claim.

The film was slated for release in theatres on September 6.

Posting a video on her X handle, Kangana said, "There are rumours doing the rounds that our film, *Emergency*, has been granted Censor certificate. This is not true. In fact, our film had been cleared but certification has been stopped because many threats were coming in. Death threats. The Censor Board members are getting threats. We are under pressure not to show the assassination of Indira Gandhi, not to show Bhindranwale, not to show the Punjab riots. I don't know what will be left to show then... This is unbelievable for me and I am very sorry for the state of things in this country."

This comes a day after Kangana, facing heat from within the BJP over her comments about the 2020-21 farmers' protests,

met party president and Union Health Minister J P Nadda at his residence in Delhi. Sources in the party said the meeting lasted nearing 30 minutes, and she was told to be careful about what she says in public while promoting her upcoming film.

The film's trailer, released a few weeks ago, showed Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, leader of the separatist Khalistan movement, promising to bring votes for Indira's political party in lieu of a separate Sikh state. The Delhi unit of the Shiromani Akali Dal had sent a legal notice to the CBFC, asking it to stop the release of the film, citing concerns over **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

WANT POLICE TO ACT SWIFTLY

In UP's Farrukhabad, distraught kin maintain girls didn't die by suicide

MAULSHREE SETH
FARRUKHABAD, AUGUST 30

THE TWO youths arrested on charges of abetment to suicide days after two teenage Dalit girls were found hanging from a tree in a Farrukhabad village in Uttar Pradesh are tailors, who run a shop on the outskirts of the village and they and the girls had exchanged numbers initially for stitching of their clothes.

Even after the filing of an FIR and the arrests, mystery continues to surround the death of the girls – aged 15 and 18 – as both their families say that they are satisfied with the arrests but are still not ready to accept the post-mortem report findings that concluded that they died by suicide.

Of the two youths, one hails from the same village as the girls and other is from a village nearby. While one's father is a mason, the other's parents are marginal farmers. Even as the families of the two girls have demanded a CBI probe in the case, the families of the two youths have also raised a similar demand, claiming that the two "might have made the mistake of speaking to girls, but could never force anyone to die by suicide or kill them."

"We were made to talk to the arrested youths. Girls of the village used to interact with them to get their clothes stitched but we

never suspected anything untoward," the father of one of the girls told *The Indian Express* on Friday. He added, "While the police are doing their work, we cannot accept the autopsy findings. Both the girls were murdered and if the case is not solved soon, we will demand a CBI investigation."

The mother of the elder girl claimed that the police told them that during interrogation, the two youths admitted to having "briefly met the girls on (August 26) night they went missing but have claimed that they soon parted ways. "Why did they leave the girls midway, rather than ensuring that they reached home? Call detail records show that they had been talking (to the girls) for long... and one of them had given a SIM card to the girls as well. We want justice and will never accept this suicide theory".

The father of the 15-year-old girl, said, "What we want to highlight is that there has to be a culprit and a reason – be it suicide as claimed in the post-mortem report or murder as we believe it is. All of a sudden, if two young girls die by suicide, what is the reason and who is the actual culprit?"

Meanwhile, three days after the incident, a delegation of local BJP representatives, including Farrukhabad MP Mukesh Rajput, met the families of the girls.

RISING RAJASTHAN INVESTMENT SUMMIT



Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma, Industries Minister Rajyavardhan Rathore, Chief Secretary Sudhansh Pant (extreme left) with other officials at the event, Friday, *Express*

Eyeing \$350-bn economy in 5 years, Rajasthan inks deals worth ₹4.5L crore

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, JAIPUR, AUGUST 30

THE GOVERNMENT of Rajasthan officially launched the first of a series of domestic and international roadshows in Mumbai, as part of preparations for the 'Rising Rajasthan' Global Investment Summit 2024. Slated to be held from December 9 to 11 in Jaipur, the summit aims to attract significant investment by showcasing Rajasthan as a premier destination for global investors.

Led by CM Bhajan Lal Sharma and Minister for Industries Colonel Rajyavardhan Rathore, the event saw the signing of numerous MoUs across a range of sectors such as cement, chemical and petrochemicals, civil aviation, ITI upgradation and renewable energy, among others valued at Rs 4.50-lakh crore in total.

"Rajasthan is undergoing a remarkable transformation, and our goal is to continue this momentum by attracting investments that will drive growth and innovation across sectors. We promise every investor the ease of doing business along with impressive returns," said the CM.

The event also witnessed the launch of a dedicated website for 'Rising Rajasthan' summit, designed to provide potential investors with detailed information about the summit, investment opportunities, and the state's economic landscape. Industry leaders who have previously invested in Rajasthan shared their experiences, highlighting the state's industrial growth and infrastructure development under CM's leadership. A short film showcasing recent investments in Rajasthan further emphasised the state's potential as a top investment destination.

Jharkhand Police recruitment: 3 faint during physical test, die

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MEDININAGAR, AUGUST 30

THREE OF the 25 aspirants, who were undergoing treatment after they fainted during a physical test of a constable recruitment exam in Palamu, have died, police said on Friday.

Two candidates died during the course of treatment at Medinirai Medical College and Hospital at Medininagar in Palamu district since Thursday night, while one succumbed at RIMS, Ranchi, Sub-Divisional Police Officer Manibhusan

Prasad said. They died of breathlessness, as per preliminary findings, and "we also suspect use of sedatives to increase stamina", Superintendent of the hospital, Dr RK Ranjan said.

"We are examining the exact cause of the deaths," he said.

The deceased were identified as Amresh Kumar (20), Arun Kumar (25) and Pradip Kumar (25). Around 100 candidates, who took part in the physical test involving running, in the constable recruitment exam of the excise department in Palamu district, have so far fainted, police said.

FROM PAGE ONE GDP growth down to 6.7% in Apr-June

FULL REPORTS ON
WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

slower GDP growth rate was "well within the consensus anticipation". "The slight slowdown was anticipated by many commentators because of the conduct of elections, which also brought down government spending as well as capital investment by the government. That is reflected in the government final consumption expenditure data as well," he said.

The CEA said rural consumption has stabilised and is improving. "A good monsoon will give further fillip to rural and therefore, overall consumption in the coming quarters," he said.

In the medium-term, therefore, the Indian economy can look forward to a growth rate of 6.5-7 per cent and opportunistically at 7 per cent plus if we can build on the structural reforms undertaken, he said. He listed elevated risks in global financial markets among the risk factors going ahead apart from escalation of geopolitical conflicts. "... potential financial markets correction can have implications for sentiment and therefore, on private consumption," he said.

"There is potential for escalation of geopolitical conflicts, leading to disruptions in commodity supply and therefore, higher prices. Monsoon, for example, if La Nina conditions set in later in the monsoon season in September and if the rainfall continues well till October then it will have implications for the harvest one expects," he said.

When asked about the slower pace of growth in tertiary or services sector, which posted an overall growth rate of 7.2 per cent in April-June as against 10.7 per

GVA AT BASIC PRICES (%)		
	Apr-Jun FY24	Apr-Jun FY25
Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry & Fishing	3.7	2
Mining & Quarrying	7	7.2
Manufacturing	5	7
Electricity, Gas, Water Supply, Utility Services	3.2	10.4
Construction	8.6	10.5
Trade, Hotels, Transport, Communication	9.7	5.7
Financial, Real Estate & Professional Services	12.6	7.1
Public Administration, Defence & Other Services	8.3	9.5
GVA at Basic Prices	8.3	6.8
Net Taxes	7.9	4.1
GDP	8.2	6.7
	Apr-Jun FY24	Apr-Jun FY25
Private Final Consumption Expenditure	5.5	7.4
Government Final Consumption Expenditure	-0.1	-0.2
Gross Fixed Capital Formation	8.5	7.5

cent in the year-ago period, Nageswaran said there was a very strong recovery in the first two-three years after the Covid-19 pandemic and those high levels have been maintained, resulting in a strong increase in base.

With capital expenditure by the government having contracted by 35 per cent in April-June (and contraction of 18 per cent in April-July), economists said the government will have to put in extra effort to make up for the loss in spending in the initial months to boost growth going ahead.

"The main reason for the lower growth performance can be linked to the underspending reflected in GoI's capital expenditure growth in the first quarter, which as per CGA's data was

(-) 35 per cent. In both the interim and final budgets for FY2025, the GoI has provided for an annual growth in capital expenditure of around 17.0 per cent. In order to make up for the loss of momentum of capital spending, the GoI will have to make an extra effort to accelerate it in the post monsoon months of the fiscal year," DK Srivastava, Chief Policy Advisor, EY India, and member of the Advisory Council to the 16th Finance Commission said.

Sectorally, agriculture posted a Gross Value Added (GVA) growth rate of 2.0 per cent in April-June as against 3.7 per cent growth in the year-ago period, while mining grew by 7.2 per cent as against 7.0 per cent. In the

services sector, Trade, Hotels, Transport, Communication & Broadcasting Services recorded GVA growth of 5.7 per cent in April-June, slower than 9.7 per cent in the year-ago period. Financial, Real Estate & Professional Services grew by 7.1 per cent in Q1 compared with 12.6 per cent in the year-ago period, while Public Administration, Defence & Other Services grew by 9.5 per cent in Q1 as against 8.3 per cent in the year-ago period.

Overall growth rate in GVA terms came in lower at 6.8 per cent in April-June as against 8.3 per cent in Q1 FY24. Usually, GVA comes in lower than the GDP, but this time it was 0.1 percentage points higher. GDP is GVA plus net product taxes (taxes – subsidies).

"Usually, real GDP growth exceeds GVA growth due to a positive contribution of indirect taxes net of subsidies. However, central government subsidies show a low growth of 3.6% in the first quarter and a negative growth of (-)10.9% in the first four months of FY2025. This implies that even going forward, the growth rates of GVA and GDP may remain close together," Srivastava said.

Government expenditure contracted by 0.2 per cent in Q1 as against a contraction of 0.1 per cent in Q1 FY24. Investments – as reflected in Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF) – grew by 7.5 per cent as against 8.5 per cent in the year-ago period, which economists said mainly reflects growth in private investment since central government's capital spending in the first quarter had remained negative.

● ST converts

Sanskriti. We respect all religions. We have never told anyone to convert. But the Congress has always pushed religious conversion in the interest of vote-bank politics. Why should those who have converted get the benefit of that (ST) community? Those who are in a particular community should reap the benefits of that community, as per the Constitution framed by Dr BR Ambedkar, so that all sections get the benefits."

Speaking on the caste census, which the Congress campaigned on during the Chhattisgarh and Lok Sabha polls, Sahu, an OBC leader who is the only minister from Chhattisgarh in the Union government, hit out at the opposition party for trying to divide the country on the basis of caste.

"The Congress was in power for 50-60 years and did not conduct the caste census. Their slogan during Indira Gandhi's time was 'na jaat par, na pat par, mohar lagegi haath par'. Now that they have been rejected from all corners, they are talking of caste census," he said. "The Congress has divided the country on the basis of religion once. Now, they are conspiring to divide the country in the name of the caste census. Those who raise the demand for the caste census should tell which caste they belong to. Don't we have the right to ask?"

● Last Vistara flight on Nov 11 as merger clears hurdle

will be shared with customers on the websites and social media channels of Vistara and Air India, and via e-mail. This includes information on web check-in, lounge access, ancillary services, and all other possible touchpoints. All efforts will be made by the dedicated teams across both airlines to ensure a seamless transition," the airline said.

The announcement came close on the heels of the government approving Singapore Airlines's investment into the merged carrier. As a joint venture partner in Vistara, Singapore Airlines holds 49 per cent stake in the airline and will have 25.1 per cent stake in the enlarged Air India after the merger. The Indian government's approval to Singapore Airline's Rs 2,059-crore investment in the merged airline was the final hurdle before the merger.

"Air India welcomes the Union Cabinet's approval for the foreign direct investment by Singapore Airlines in Air India. This is an important milestone that facilitates the merger process between Vistara and Air India, and the broader transformation of the Air India Group," Air India said in a statement.

"We are immensely grateful to all our customers for their support and patronage over the last 10 years. As we progress fur-

ther in our growth journey, we want to emphasize that this merger is about offering them more choice with a larger fleet and a wider network, while elevating the overall travel experience. Vistara and Air India are committed to ensuring that this transition is smooth and hassle-free. We are excited about this new phase in our journey and look forward to welcoming our customers again soon – as Air India," said Vistara's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Vinod Kannan.

For Vistara flights on or after November 12, the flight numbers will change to those of Air India, even though in nearly all cases the aircraft, schedule and operating crew will be unchanged until early 2025. All customers already booked on Vistara flights after November 12 will automatically have their reservation converted to Air India flight numbers. This will occur in phases during September, and customers will be individually informed when this occurs.

"For our Vistara colleagues, the HR (human resources) teams are working on the transfer of those who have not already been seconded into Air India. As with those who have already joined, we look forward to welcoming our new Air Indians, helping

them feel at home, and to having their assistance in catalysing and accelerating the new Air India," Air India's CEO Campbell Wilson said in an internal communication to Air India employees.

Kannan, too, shared the news with Vistara employees in an internal communication and thanked them for their contribution to Vistara's growth. Kannan, who is also the chief integration officer for the merger, told Vistara employees about the merger roadmap over the coming weeks and updated them on staff migration and harmonization activities. He also tried to dispel fears among Vistara employees, saying that the merger is the "beginning of an exciting new chapter" in the airline's growth story that will provide "numerous opportunities" to all employees.

Apart from merging Air India and Vistara, the Tata group is also in the process of merging its budget carriers Air India Express and AIX Connect (formerly AirAsia India). Once both the mergers are complete, the Air India group will have a full-service carrier Air India and a low-cost airline Air India Express. The consolidation is a critical part of Air India's transformation programme Vihaan.Ai, that seeks to build Air India into an airline of global repute.

● India says its development projects in Bangladesh have been impacted

have been impacted" due to the turmoil in Bangladesh.

Responding to questions, Jaishwal said, "regarding bilateral projects... yes, because of the turmoil in Bangladesh, our projects have been impacted. Let me tell you that our development cooperation activities with Bangladesh are aimed at the welfare of the people of Bangladesh... The Prime Minister, in his Independence Day speech as well, had stated that India will always be a well-wisher of Bangladesh in its development journey.

"Work on some of the projects has stalled, and has been affected because of the law and order situation there. Once the situation stabilises, normalcy is restored, then we will talk to (Dhaka), we will engage in consultations with the interim government about our development initiatives and then see how best to take those forward

and what sort of understanding we can reach on them," he said.

The development projects in Bangladesh, he said, have been temporarily halted due to the current situation there "as many people working on various development projects there had to return".

Visa services, he said, have been impacted as well. "Presently, limited Indian visa services are available in Bangladesh. These are being granted for emergency or medical purposes. You would appreciate that full visa services can only resume once law and order is restored and normalcy is established," he said.

Bangladesh is the largest development partner of India. Over the last decade and half, India has extended three Lines of Credits (LOC) to Bangladesh amounting to around USD 8 billion for development of infrastructure in vari-

ous sectors including roads, railways, shipping and ports.

In addition to LOCs, the Government of India has also been providing grant assistance to Bangladesh for various infrastructure projects including construction of the Akhaura-Agartala rail link, dredging of inland waterways in Bangladesh and construction of the India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline.

High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDPs) constitute an active pillar of India's development assistance. Government of India has funded 77 HICDPs including construction of student hostels, academic buildings, skill development and training institutions, cultural centres, and orphanages etc. in Bangladesh and another 16 HICDPs are being implemented, with all the 93 projects amounting to over USD 50 million.

Speaking at the release of former Indian diplomat Rajiv Sikri's book 'Strategic Conundrums: Reshaping India's Foreign Policy', Jaishankar said India has to find a ground of mutual interest with Bangladesh and India would deal with "the government of the day". "Since Bangladesh's independence, our relationship has gone up and down, and it is natural that we will deal with the government of the day. But we also have to recognise that there are political changes, and they can be disruptive. And clearly, here we have to look for mutuality of interest."

The MEA also rejected reports about an India link to the floods in Bangladesh. "We have seen the CNN report on the flood situation in Bangladesh. Its narrative is misleading and suggests that India is somehow responsible for the floods. This is factually not correct...," Jaishwal said.

● Year after violence, why NIT Manipur has no Kuki student on campus

In July 2023, after the final exams that year, held virtually, the KSO sent a representation to the Director of NIT Manipur requesting the institute to "facilitate the transfer of the displaced Kuki-Zo-Mizo NIT students to other NITs and technical institutions outside Manipur at the earliest". The representation also states that "the 50 displaced students of NIT... can no longer resume their normal classes due to the violence that started on May 3".

Over the following months, the KSO reached out to the Governor of Manipur, the Union Education Ministry and the National Commission of Scheduled Tribes to highlight the issues faced by the displaced students. Eventually, in February this year, KSO approached the Supreme Court, but by the time the court allowed the Kuki students to be transferred to other NITs, 12 of them had graduated by appearing for online exams

● Cong's Tytler to face murder trial

Singh who was killed along with Sardar Thakur Singh and Gurcharan Singh in the attack, told *The Indian Express*: "This has been a torturous fight... I think it's the first time in this country when the CBI filed three closure reports and all three were rejected by the Courts. This clearly shows that proper investigation was not being done. Finally, the fourth time the investigation is happening correctly."

In its chargesheet filed in May 2023, the CBI had accused him of "inciting, instigating and provoking the mob" that had assembled near the Pul Bangash Gurdwara at Azad Market, Bara Hindu Rao on November 1, 1984. A day earlier, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was assassinated by her Sikh bodyguards

Relying on the testimony of a witness, the CBI said that Tytler instigated the mob by shouting "Kill the Sikhs, they have killed our mother" – the "mother" being a reference to Indira Gandhi. In 2000, the Justice Nanavati

Commission was constituted to inquire into the 1984 anti-Sikh riots in Delhi. Following a report by this Commission, the Ministry of Home Affairs issued directions to the CBI to investigate the case against Tytler and others. The case against Tytler was first registered by the CBI on November 22, 2005.

On February 12, 2015, the MHA also issued an order, constituting an SIT to "re-investigate" "appropriately" the "serious" criminal cases that had been filed in Delhi, but were closed.

This SIT, comprising 69 people including four ACPs, 11 inspectors and two prosecutors, traced 293 such closed cases. After months, 199 cases were closed due to "incomplete, illegible" records or lack of witnesses.

Between 2016 and 2017, 60 of the remaining cases were scrutinised. Eventually, a closure report was filed in 52 due to lack of evidence or witnesses. In the remaining eight cases, police filed chargesheets in five cases.

● Certification for 'Emergency'

its portrayal of Sikhs.

The film's trailer also evoked a sharp reaction from Sikh organisations, including the Akal Takht and the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC).

SGPC officials said they had sent letters to the Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting and the CBFC chairperson, demanding a ban on the film. Parts of Punjab had also witnessed stray protests.

On Tuesday, the SGPC too had issued a legal notice to the producers of the film for allegedly "misrepresenting the character and history of the Sikh" community. Additionally, a PIL was filed in the Punjab and Haryana High Court seeking a ban on its release.

SGPC secretary Partap Singh said the notice was issued under the direction of SGPC president Harjinder Singh Dhami. He said the trailer contained numerous

anti-Sikh scenes that deeply hurt the community's sentiments. "An attempt has been made to show Sikhs as terrorists and separatists, which is unacceptable and far from the truth," he said.

Shiromani Akali Dal leader Harsimrat Kaur Badal had urged that the film be reviewed by the SGPC before its release, expressing concerns that the Sikh community should not be defamed.

Jagmohan Singh Raju, the BJP's Punjab general secretary and advisor to the National Commission for Minorities, had also written to the Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, requesting that the CBFC exercise "double diligence" before certifying the movie. The film's story is written by the actor, and its screenplay by Ritesh Shah. It also stars Anupam Kher, Shreyas Talpade, Mahima Choudhary and the late Satish Kaushik.

● Navi Mumbai land allotment

But what has led to allegations of "abuse of power" and "unethical" behaviour is a letter written on June 16, 2023, by the Minister's private secretary Vishal Rathod to the minister's letterhead to the then Cidco Managing Director. In this letter, the Private Secretary sought to ensure that once land is finalised for the center for the banjara community, "the plot should be transferred in the name of Shri Sant Dr Ramrao Maharaj Charitable Trust."

Taking cognizance, Cidco wrote to the then Principal Secretary of the Urban Development Department on July 28, 2023, and as per this letter, Chief Minister Shinde had in an earlier meeting in February that year discussed the AIBS request for a community centre. It also referred to a review meeting on May 8, 2023, when the then Chief Secretary asked Cidco to send a proposal of a suitable plot since previously discussed plots were reserved for other purposes.

A day later on May 9, 2023, Minister Sanjay Rathod visited the Cidco office and inspected the three plots identified for the purpose by the agency and finalised two of them. His Private Secretary then wrote on June 16, 2023, to Cidco making a request to transfer the said land to Shri Sant Dr Ramrao Maharaj Charitable Trust.

Both the shortlisted plots were reserved for 'religious' purposes. "In case the corporation issues an advertisement for the community center, the organisation representing Gor Banjara community can apply and in case it fits the criteria it can pay the fixed lease amount and get the land," the letter from Cidco suggested.

When asked how the Private Secretary can write on his (the Minister's) letterhead to Cidco, Minister Rathod said the question was not valid since he was ready to return the land.

One-and-a-half months after Cidco's letter to the UDD, the state Cabinet decided on September 16, 2023, to hand over the land totalling 5,600 sq mt for the construction of the community centre. The Cabinet decision, however, did not mention the

beneficiary then. But on November 1, 2023, the UDD issued a government resolution stating the plot was handed over to Shri Sant Dr Ramrao Maharaj Charitable Trust.

"Necessary action should be taken by Cidco's Land Use Change Committee to sanction the land use change to social from existing religious," the Government Resolution said. "Relaxation is being given to Rule Number 25 of Navi Mumbai Disposal of Lands (Amendment) Regulations, 2008, for direct distribution of the said plot for Gor Banjara community centre without calling public tenders," it said.

When asked how the UDD can hand over the land parcel to a trust headed by the Minister and if it was not a case of conflict of interest, a senior official from the UDD, who did not wish to be named said, "The GR was issued based on the Cabinet decision as per the routine procedure."

But some members of the banjara community have now raised questions alleging this was "unethical" and showed "abuse of power" by the minister. The All India Gorbhanjara Jagran Parishad, another organisation representing the banjaras, has filed a complaint with the state Lokayukta. "The entire process is nothing but abuse of power. The minister has ensured that the land goes to a trust headed by him, which is not only unethical but illegal. There has to be a thorough inquiry into it and therefore we have approached everyone including the Governor, Chief Minister and two deputy CMs. We hope to get justice," said Vitthal Darve, Secretary of the Parishad.

Darve said his organisation's complaint has been heard by the Lokayukta and directions given to the state government to furnish all documents.

Minister Rathod said work had not yet commenced on the plot. "We have not been able to begin work within six months as per the guidelines. So, if any other organisation wants to come forward and apply for this land, they can. It will be given to them," he said.

and only 38 were left to avail of the benefit. Though the SC verdict has come as a relief to the students, it was also a sign that the fault lines were as deep as they had been last year.

A Kuki student who is now at NIT Meghalaya said, "The court verdict has left me with mixed feelings. I'm glad that I am able to continue my studies but I miss NIT Manipur. It was my first preference because it was my home." His visits to his hometown of

Churachandpur, he said, are through Mizoram. "That's the safest route for us Kukis."

Another student, who is in his 6th semester at NIT Meghalaya, said, "We are lucky that the court said we could be sent to other NITs. Because we could have never gone back to Imphal. A lot of things have changed for ever – especially our friendship with those from the other community." He misses home, but "at least I don't feel like an outsider here".

tions as of 11.30 am Friday. The weather system has already caused extreme weather in the state, even in its pre-cyclonic stage. Additionally, an off-shore trough running from north Kerala to Gujarat will keep the southwest monsoon active to vigorous over the west coast.

In its latest forecast, the IMD said heavy rainfall (64-115 mm in 24 hours) will continue over Gujarat till Saturday. After a brief lull, heavy rainfall is expected over

the Kutch-Saurashtra region on September 2 and 3.

"The cyclone will move nearly northwards away from the Indian coast along the northern Arabian Sea for the next two days," the department said Friday.

Cyclones in India, intensifying in the Bay of Bengal or the Arabian Sea, are more common during the pre-monsoon March-May and the post-monsoon October-December periods. The strongest of these storms have developed

during May and November. Due to strong monsoon currents and other unfavourable ocean factors, systems rarely intensify into cyclones during the June-September monsoon season – making Cyclone Asna a rare development.

While this is the first cyclone to form in the Arabian Sea since 1964, one such storm had formed over the Indian landmass in 1976 before moving over the Arabian Sea, according to IMD records.

WEEK-LONG RAIDS

Seven states, 18 arrests:
Cyber fraud ring busted

PRAGYNESH
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

EARLIER THIS year, a wing commander in Delhi put up his 2-bhk apartment for rent on a popular property aggregator website. A man texted him on WhatsApp, stating that another Army official had shown interest in his property. “The man told the wing commander that he would make the payment from an Army Merchant account but since that account belongs to the government, he needed proof that the account he would be making the payment to was genuine. He convinced the wing commander to transfer Rs 2.29 lakh to his account, promising that he would return it. As soon as the money was transferred, the man blocked the wing commander,” said a police official. The case was among six others of cyber fraud that the Delhi Police cracked recently following which 18 people were arrested from different parts of the country after week-long raids. DCP Rohit Meena said the raids were conducted in Karmatar in Jamtara and Giridih (Jharkhand), Samastipur (Bihar), Rajgarh (Madhya Pradesh), Pratapgarh (Uttar Pradesh), Mumbai (Maharashtra), Ajmer (Rajasthan), and Tarapith and Birbhum (West Bengal). “Rs.6.9 crore were seized from the arrested persons,” DCP Meena said. DTP fraud, the police said, was a unique modus operandi found

TYPES OF FRAUDS

- Online investment fraud
- Work-from-home through Telegram
- Fake customer care scam
- Fraud in name of property websites
- DTP card scam

in one of the cases. DCP Meena said, “On July 11, a retired Colonel living in Delhi received an SMS claiming that 8550 points were in his account that could be redeemed for cash. The victim was asked to click on a link, which took him to the bank’s page. On submitting his banking details, he discovered that Rs 3,39,011 had vanished from his account. The money was transferred to a DTP card.” The IP address of the card was tracked and its credentials were found to be used in West Bengal. “One accused named Sanjay Kumbhkar, 45, a petrol pump manager in Rajgarh, was then arrested,” DCP Meena said. DTP cards are used for the purchase of fuel and lubricants at petrol pumps. At least three persons connected with this scam were nabbed from Tarapith. “The reason these scamsters had moved to Tarapith was increased surveil-

lance around Jamtara,” a police officer said. On the basis of the money trail, two accused were arrested after a raid in Alwar on August 27. In another case, the victim was a constable deployed with Rajputana Rifles in Delhi Cantt. He had placed a customer care request to return a parcel ordered from a popular e-commerce website. On October 10, he received a call from a man claiming to be a customer care executive who asked him to download an app called Anydesk. “The accused then obtained remote access to the victim’s account and took out Rs 1,99,808 in four transactions,” DCP Meena said. Money trail led the police to a mule account operated by Kundan Kumar Das, 27, in Deogarh, Jharkhand, who used to provide it to his friend Irfan and other fraudsters from Pindari. In another case, a woman from Safdarjung Enclave had joined a WhatsApp group which claimed to teach investment tips for high returns. “She was asked to install an application to buy IPOs. She was directed to invest Rs 18 lakh in three transactions, which she did. She realised that she had been cheated when the alleged scamsters asked her to invest more,” said an officer with Cyber Police Station, South West. On February 21, she lodged a complaint following which police nabbed Deepu and Md. Ali from Bengaluru. “They revealed that they sold their mule accounts to one Chetan Naidu,” DCP Meena said. Naidu was arrested from Grant Road East, Mumbai.

CCTVs, cap on attendants
among health dept’s safety
measures for hospitals

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

REGULAR CCTV monitoring, deploying security personnel, and limiting the number of attendants accompanying patients — the Delhi Health Department has directed government hospitals to enforce such measures to increase security on their premises. This comes in the wake of the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare’s direction to all central government-run hospitals to enhance their security measures in light of the rape and murder of a 31-year-old doctor at R G Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata. The health department, in a meeting, instructed medical superintendents and directors of Delhi government hospitals to prepare an ‘access control plan’ and ensure rational distribution of security personnel in crucial departments. Resident doctors are to be included in such discussions. During the meeting, Health Secretary SB Deepak Kumar also reviewed the present safety and security plan being followed at



Doctors protest against the Kolkata rape-murder case, in New Delhi Friday. Amit Mehra

hospitals and suggested improvements as per the Centre’s guidelines. “All areas within the hospital premises should have proper CCTV-based monitoring and must be well-lit throughout the day. Regular coordination with the police department should be ensured to ensure 24/7 monitoring/patrolling. Entry of a limited number of attendants of patients should be ensured,” said a senior official from the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS). In addition, a display board laying out the state laws for the protection of healthcare workers and relevant sections of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita will be installed, along with punitive/penalty details in conspicuous places inside the hospital premises, in the local language and English.

Excise case:
HC to decide
bail pleas of 3
accused soon

SOHINI GHOSH
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

THE DELHI High Court is likely to soon decide the bail pleas of three accused in the Delhi excise policy case. Reserving the verdict of one of the accused, businessman Amit Arora, a single-judge bench of Justice Neena Bansal Krishna Friday said, “I will be wrapping up the bail matters within 8-10 days.” Apart from Arora, Justice Krishna’s bench is dealing with the bail pleas of two other accused — Aam Aadmi Party’s former communications chief Vijay Nair and Indospirit managing director Sameer Mahendru. Justice Krishna Friday further extended the interim bail of Arora, the director of Buddy Retail Pvt Ltd. He was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). The ED has accused Nair of being a middleman between the ‘South Group’, which allegedly gave Rs 100 crore as kickbacks to enter the liquor retail segment in the national capital, and the AAP. He has also been accused of laundering money received as kickbacks during AAP’s Goa Assembly poll campaign in 2022. According to the probe, Nair, in collusion with co-accused Dinesh and Amit Arora, allegedly arm-twisted a few wholesalers to surrender their L-1 licences and then coerced manufacturers to choose wholesalers of his choice. Nair’s bail plea has been reserved for judgment.

रेल विकास निगम लिमिटेड
Rail Vikas Nigam Limited
गुणवत्ता, गति एवं पारदर्शिता
(A Government of India Enterprise)

RAIL VIKAS NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of India Enterprise)
Registered office: 1st Floor, August Kranti Bhawan, Bhikaji Cama Place, R. K. Puram, New Delhi, South Delhi - 110066,
CIN: L74999DL2003G0118633, E-mail: investors@rvnl.org
Website: www.rvnl.org, Phone No.: 011-26738299, Fax: 011-26182957

NOTICE TO THE SHAREHOLDERS FOR 21ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

1. NOTICE is hereby given that the **21st Annual General Meeting (AGM)** of the members of Rail Vikas Nigam Limited will be held on **Monday, 30th September, 2024 at 11:30 A.M. (IST)** through Video Conferencing (“VC”) /Other Audio Visual Means (“OAVM”) to transact the business as set out in the Notice of AGM, being circulated separately. In Compliance with the General Circular No. 09/2023 dated 25th September, 2023 read with General Circular Nos. 14/2020, 17/2020, 20/2020, issued by Ministry of Corporate Affairs and Circular dated 7th October, 2023 read with Circular No. SEBI/HO/CFD/CFD-PoD-2/P/CIR/2023/167 dated 7th October, 2023 issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India read with the circulars issued earlier on the subject (hereinafter collectively referred to as the “Circulars”), **the 21st AGM of the Company** is being held through VC / OAVM.

2. In Compliance with the aforesaid circulars, Notice of the AGM along with the Annual Report 2023-24, will be sent only by electronic mode to those Members of the Company whose email addresses are registered with the Company/Depository Participant(s). The aforesaid documents will also be available on the Company’s website in the Investors Section at www.rvnl.org, the website of the Stock Exchanges i.e., BSE Limited and National Stock Exchange of India Limited at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com, respectively, the website of NSDL National Securities Depository Limited (agency for providing e-voting/ remote e-voting facility) i.e. www.evoting.nsdl.com and on the website of Company’s Registrar and Share Transfer Agents (RTA) i.e. M/s Alankit Assignments Limited at www.alankit.com.

3. **Manner of Registering / Updating Email Addresses**

a) Members who have not registered their email addresses are requested to register the same in respect of shares held in electronic form with the depository through their depository participant(s) and in respect of shares held in physical form by writing to the company’s registrar and share transfer agent, Alankit Assignments Limited, 205-208, Anarkali Complex, Jhandewalan Extension, New Delhi-110055 or by email to virenders@alankit.com.

b) Shareholders who have not registered their email address with the depository participants may procure user id and password in the manner as set out below:

i) In case shares are held in physical mode, please provide Folio No., Name of Shareholder, Scanned Copy of the Share Certificate (Front & Back), PAN (self-attested scanned copy of PAN Card), AADHAR (self-attested scanned copy of Aadhar Card) by email to virenders@alankit.com.

ii) In case of shares are held in Demat Mode, please provide DP ID & Client ID (16 digit DP ID+Client ID or 16 digit Beneficiary ID), Name, Client Master or copy of Consolidated Account Statement, PAN (self-attested scanned copy of PAN Card) AADHAR (self-attested scanned copy of Aadhar Card) by email to virenders@alankit.com. If you are an individual shareholder holding securities in Demat mode, please refer to the login method explained in the notice of AGM.

c) Alternatively, shareholder/members may send a request to www.evoting.nsdl.com for procuring user ID & password for e-voting by providing the above mentioned documents.

4. **Manner of casting vote(s) through Remote e-voting /e-voting at AGM**

(a) Members will have the opportunity to cast their vote (s) on the business as set out in the Notice of the AGM through electronic voting system (“e-voting”).

(b) The manner of voting remotely (“remote e-voting”) by members holding shares in dematerialized mode, physical mode and for members who have not registered their email addresses has been provided in the Notice of AGM. The details will also be available on the website of Company at www.rvnl.org and on the website of NSDL at www.evoting.nsdl.com.

(c) The facility of voting through electronic voting system will also be made available at the AGM and Members attending AGM who have not cast their vote(s) by remote e-voting will be able to vote at the AGM.

(d) The login credentials for casting votes through e-voting shall be made available to all members through email. Members who do not receive email or whose email addresses are not registered with the Company/Alankit Assignments/Depository Participants may generate login credentials by following instructions given in the Notes to Notice of AGM.

5. **Manner of registering mandate for receiving Dividend**

a) Payment of dividend shall be made through electronic mode to the shareholders who have updated their bank account details. Dividend warrant/Demand Drafts will be dispatched to the registered address of the shareholders who have not updated their bank account details.

b) For payment of Dividend electronically, members who have not opted for Electronic Clearing System (ECS) facility earlier are requested to fill up ECS mandate form and submit it directly to their depository participants (DP) to avail the ECS facility. Those holding shares in physical form may send the ECS mandate form to Alankit Assignments Limited (“RTA”). The shareholders who hold shares in physical form & who do not wish to opt for ECS facility may please email their bankers’ name, branch address & account number to the RTA to enable them to print these details on the dividend warrants.

6. **Members are requested to carefully read all the Notes set out in the Notice of the AGM and in particular instructions to register / update e-mail id, joining AGM, manner of casting votes through remote e-voting or voting at AGM and Dividend related information.**

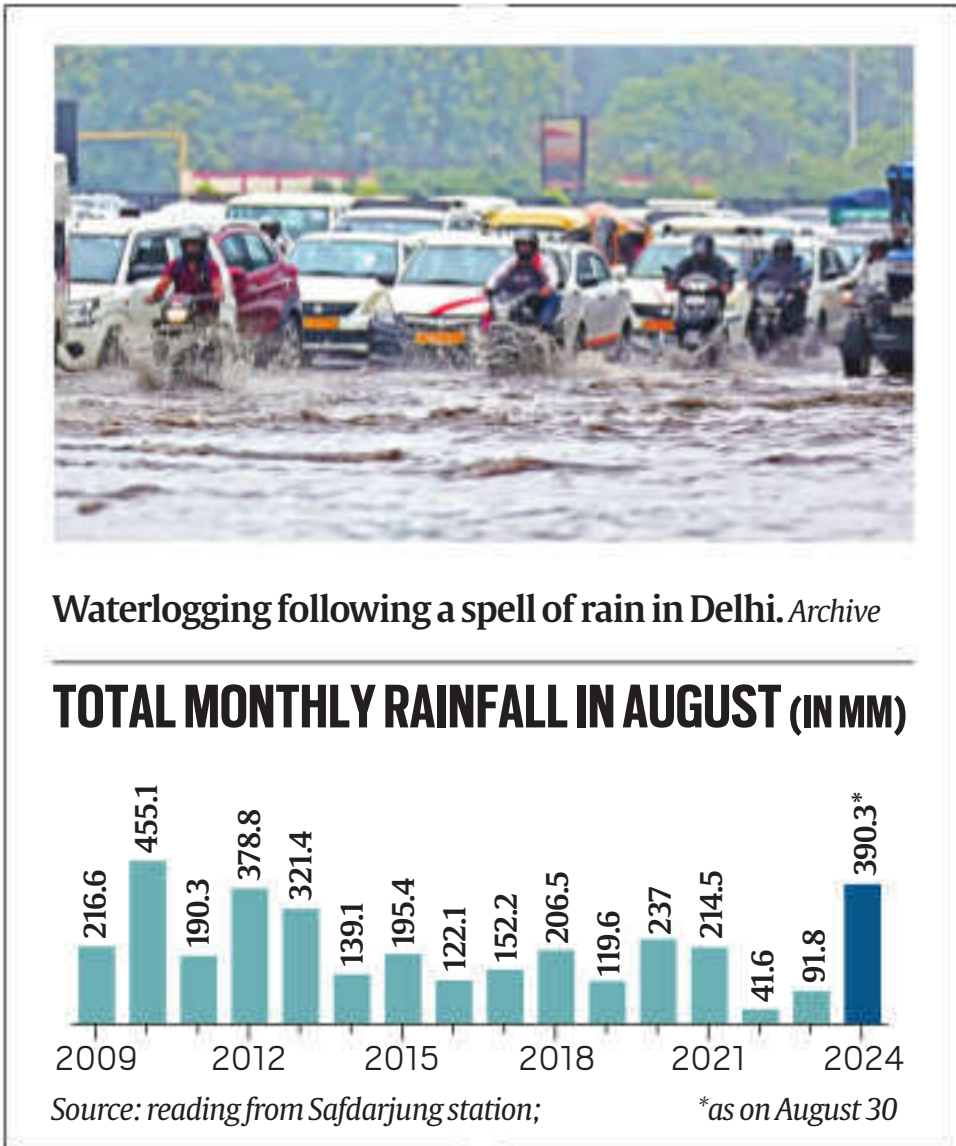
**Place : New Delhi
Dated : 30.08.2024**

**For Rail Vikas Nigam Limited
Sd/-
(Kalpana Dubey)
Company Secretary & Compliance Officer**

In August, Delhi saw 26 rainy
days — highest figure since 2011

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

ON AUGUST 1, Delhi received 107.6 mm of rainfall in just 24 hours, equivalent to one-fifth of its average three-month rainfall (July-September) of 549.3 mm. It rained for most of the days in the entire month. With 26 rainy days reported as of Friday, it is the highest mark since 2011 at least, as per the India Meteorological Department (IMD). The maximum and minimum temperatures also remained either below or close to normal most of the days in August. With such incessant downpours, the city logged the highest rainfall for August in 14 years, which is yet another record. According to IMD data, the Safdarjung station, which is representative of the city, saw a 70 per cent above departure monthly rainfall at 390.3 mm. This is also the highest since 2010 when the reported rainfall was 455.1 mm. Meanwhile, the second-highest monthly rainfall for August was reported at 378.8 mm in 2012. On Thursday, the reported rainfall was logged at 77.1 mm, immediately after which the maximum temperature dipped to the lowest reported in the entire



month at 28.8 degrees Celsius. The city saw a comparatively dry day on Friday but the temperatures remained close to normal. The maximum temperature recorded on Friday was 35 degrees Celsius, near normal. While the minimum temperature was

below normal for the fourth consecutive day at 24 degrees Celsius, which is around two notches below normal. According to the IMD’s seven-day forecast, a partly cloudy sky is expected for the weekend but there is no warning for rainfall.

Soon, drones to be
deployed across Delhi
to spot encroachments

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

SOON, DRONES will be deployed to identify, map and monitor encroachments in Delhi. In a step to ensure to protect land from being encroached and to bring clarity to the status of land for land-owning agencies in the Capital, a memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed by the Delhi Development Authority (DDA), Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), and Survey of India Thursday to conduct drone surveys. The initiative, headed by L-G VK Saxena, will provide real-time high-resolution data and aims to determine the current status of land in the capital. A statement from the L-G’s office read, “The survey to be undertaken now will provide immense advantages such as high level of data accuracy and high-resolution images obtained through drones flying over identified areas. It would help exact boundary demarcation of structures and ensure that ground-truthing of

The initiative, headed by L-G VK Saxena, will provide real-time high-resolution data

khasra layers is done more precisely.” The aerial imagery will have diverse uses including easy identification, mapping and monitoring of encroachments. Advanced data elevation models will be used to identify vertical encroachments. The survey will also provide high-resolution data on a real-time basis, enabling precise boundary demarcation, identification, mapping, and monitoring of encroachments. This will help authorities to take swift action against encroachments, ensuring the planned development of Delhi as per the Master Plan of Delhi (MPD), said the statement. The agreement is aimed at helping DDA and MCD easily identify and address encroachments and unauthorised constructions.

Uttarakhand
Simply Heaven!

Devbhumi Uttarakhand Yatra

Pitru Chhaya: A tribute to our ancestors

Haridwar-Rishikesh-Panch Prayag-Badrinath

Package Code	Itinerary	Date of Departure	Origin
WZUBG12	20 th September 2024	Pune	

Boarding Points

Pune - Kalyan - Vasai Road - Vapi - Surat - Vadodara - Ahmedabad - Udaipur - Chittorgarh - Bhilwara - Ajmer - Jaipur - Rewari - Delhi Cantt. - Ghaziabad

Package Price

STARTING FROM: ₹44,990/- Per Person
For bookings visit: www.irctctourism.com/bharatgaurav

Itinerary Details	1 Night Haridwar	1 Night Rishikesh	1 Night Rudraprayag
	1 Night Karnaprayag	2 Nights Joshimath	

This yatra covers significant religious and tourist destinations in Uttarakhand, focusing on temples and natural beauty, providing a comprehensive spiritual and scenic experience.

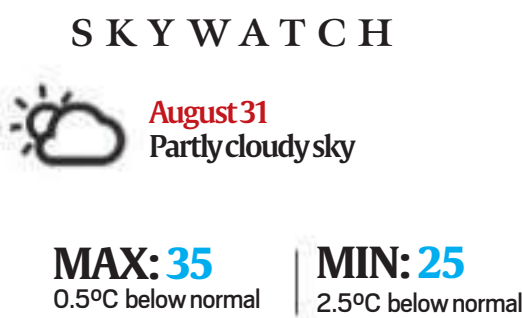
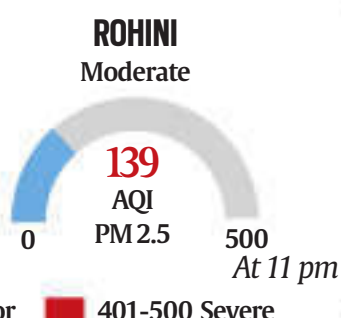
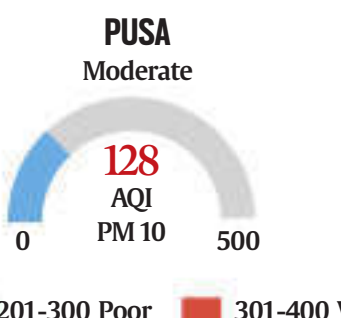
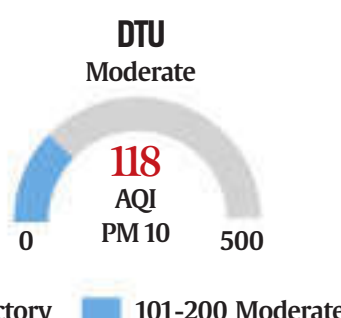
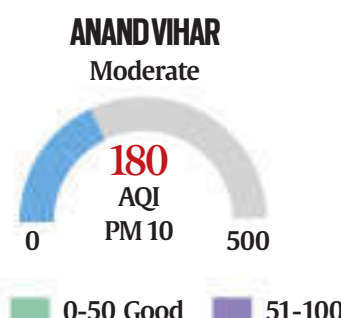
For Booking Contact

REWARI, DELHI CANTT., GHAZIABAD:
7827970027, 8287930755

Uttarakhand Tourism Development Board

uttarakhandtourism.gov.in | [/UttarakhandTourismOfficialPage](https://www.facebook.com/UttarakhandTourismOfficialPage) | [/UTDBofficial](https://www.instagram.com/UTDBofficial) | [/uttarakhand_tourismoofficial](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) | [Uttarakhand Tourism](https://www.linkedin.com/company/uttarakhand-tourism)

SCAN FOR BOOKING



BRIEFLY

DU releases schedule for round 3 of admissions

New Delhi: Delhi University Friday announced the schedule for upcoming rounds of allocations to its undergraduate programmes under the Common Seat Allocation System. Through the ‘upgrade’ window, admitted candidates of Rounds I and II can opt for upgradation on higher preferences. They can also reorder their programme-college combinations which were higher in preference than one allocated. This window will be open from 5 pm Saturday to 4.59 pm, Sunday. After this, the upgraded allocations will be declared on Tuesday. The candidates can then ‘accept’ the seat by 4.59 pm Wednesday, September 4. The provision of ‘mid-entry will allow candidates who missed to apply to CSAS in Phases I and II, among others. The window for this will be open from 5 pm, September 7 to 4.59 pm, September 9. Then, based on the submissions, the third round of allocations will be declared at 5 pm, September 11. Candidates will have time till 4.59 pm, September 13 to ‘accept’ the allocated seat. According to the varsity, as of Friday, admissions for a total of 75,083 students were confirmed in round II. A total of 29,344 students have opted for an upgrade while 41,885 students have chosen to freeze their seats. **ENS**

Shastri Park hit-and-run: Truck driver arrested

New Delhi: Police arrested a 31-year-old truck driver for allegedly moving down three dailywage workers and injuring two others sleeping on the central verge of a road in Shastri Park on Monday. Arjun, a resident of UP’s Fatehpur, was turned in by the truck’s owner to the Motor Accident Claims Tribunal Wednesday, and was subsequently arrested by police. The truck’s owner told police Arjun had been working as a driver for him for the past five years. Police investigation also revealed that the truck had five challans pending against it, with the most recent one issued in December 2022. Police said Arjun was driving the canter truck through Shastri Park from Seelampur on Monday at 4.30 am, and was on his way to the Iron Bridge when he lost control of the vehicle and veered onto the central verge. **ENS**

1984 RIOTS: CONG’S JAGDISH TYTLER TO FACE MURDER TRIAL

At Pul Bangash, memories from 40 years ago resurface

UPASIKA SINGHAL
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

ON FRIDAY evening, the Azad Market gurdwara in North Delhi’s Pul Bangash is quiet, save for the *granthi*’s chanting. A few men sit scattered across the soft carpeted floor and repeat “*Wahe Guru ji da Khalsa, Wahe Guru ji di Fateh*” every few minutes. The news had yet to reach them. When it finally did, Gurbaksh Singh’s eyes widened on hearing a Delhi court’s order that Congress leader Jagdish Tytler, accused in the 1984 anti-Sikh riots, is set to face trial for charges including hate speech and murder. He began furiously scrolling through his phone to confirm it. “Oh... there it is,” he said and then quietly read the news piece before setting down his phone. He shook his head and smiled. Forty years ago, the same gurdwara was the site of unimaginable violence and bloodshed during the riots that broke out across Delhi following Prime Minister Indira Gandhi’s assassination by her Sikh bodyguards on October 31, 1984. Three Sikh men were burnt in and near the premises. Azad Market, situated right behind the place of worship, is said to have burned for three days straight. Over the years, Tytler’s name has emerged several



Outside the Azad Market gurdwara in North Delhi’s Pul Bangash on Friday. *Amit Mehra*

times in relation to the riots. Eyewitnesses have claimed that he had a direct role in the violence that lasted three days. On Friday, the court ordered the framing of charges against Tytler under Indian Penal Code sections murder (302); abetment (109); rioting (147); promoting enmity between groups (153A) and being a part of unlawful assembly (143). In its

chargesheet filed against Tytler last May, the Central Bureau of Investigation had accused him of “inciting, instigating and provoking the mob” that had assembled near the Pul Bangash Gurdwara on November 1, 1984. Recounting that day, Gurbaksh said, “I was so young then... I remember we didn’t venture outside the house for 3-4 days. We kept our doors and

windows tightly shut. We would hear about shops being burnt and people being put in tyres and then burnt...” His voice trails away as his eyes take on a faraway look. “... Most of the people who saw what happened then are either dead or gone. Who would want to live here after that?” he added. “You know, I can’t imagine my father’s pain,” he said. “He saw both 1947 and 1984. He saw too much bloodshed, too many people being cut down in front of him.” Another man sitting next to Gurbaksh recalled how the gurdwara was burned on November 1. “People used to live on the floors above... they saw a fire and began throwing cylinders out of the windows, thinking they would explode in the heat. The mob that had gathered below threw the cylinders back into the building... two or three must have burst,” he said. Satnam Singh, an elderly man, said, “We got scared... nothing made sense, people just lost their minds in the violence.” The three men sat in silence, staring at the red, white, and black patterns on the gurdwara’s carpeted floor. There’s no celebration or relief. Only silence. “I suppose it’s good if he goes to jail,” said Gurbaksh, adding, “But most of the people who suffered are gone now.”

BJP MLAs meet President Murmu, seek dismissal of Delhi govt; AAP hits back



Delhi BJP MLAs, led by Leader of the Opposition Vijender Gupta, with President Droupadi Murmu. *Express*

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

UNDERLINING WHAT it termed were “grave concerns” related to the functioning of the AAP government in Delhi, a delegation of BJP MLAs Friday called on President Droupadi Murmu with an appeal to dismiss the government given the “constitutional crisis plaguing” the Capital. Reacting to the move, the AAP termed it an indication of the BJP having “already accepted defeat” in the upcoming Delhi Assembly elections. Delhi BJP MLAs, led by Leader of Opposition Vijender Gupta, submitted a memorandum highlighting “governance paralysis” with CM Arvind Kejriwal in jail for over four months on corruption charges related to the Delhi excise policy case. “Despite his imprisonment, Kejriwal has refused to resign,

creating an unprecedented situation that has led to a complete breakdown of governance in Delhi. Critical administrative decisions are being delayed, and essential services are severely affected, directly impacting the lives of Delhi’s citizens,” the BJP’s memorandum stated. “We are calling on the President to dismiss this government and take immediate action to restore constitutional order in Delhi,” Gupta said. On its part, the AAP alleged that the BJP was “desperate to seize power” in Delhi and had left no stone unturned to “defame honestly working AAP leaders”, including Kejriwal, even as the “so-called liquor scam conspiracy has fallen flat in the court.” “Now, BJP is in a hurry to impose President’s rule as it cannot win elections in Delhi. The people of Delhi have seen that CM Kejriwal has worked like a son of Delhi,” the AAP said in response.

‘Need meeting to check feasibility of artificial rain’ Minister Gopal Rai writes to Centre

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

DELHI ENVIRONMENT Minister Gopal Rai Friday called on the central government to convene an urgent meeting to check the feasibility of cloud seeding in the city. Cloud seeding is a process to induce artificial rain. With the onset of winter a month away, when air pollution is feared to be the most rampant, talks of artificial rain in the capital have emerged. The step comes a day after Rai held a round table conference with environmental experts and officials to gather their

L-G distributes appointment letters to 629 govt employees

New Delhi: L-G V K Saxena Friday distributed letters of appointment to 629 government employees, including 27 doctors, to be posted in various Delhi government departments and the Delhi Development Authority. Following the event at Vigyan Bhawan, the L-G’s office said over 17,000 permanent recruitments had been made by the Delhi Subordinate Services Selection Board in the last two years and the number of government employees inducted over the two years following Saxena’s taking over exceeds total appointments made in the last decade. “Having expedited the recruitment process, DSSSB is



L-Gat ceremony. *Amit Mehra*

expected to fill another 20,000 government vacancies by March next year, significantly reducing the huge vacancies in Delhi Govt departments...,” Saxena said in a related post on X. **ENS**

ELECTIONS ON SEPTEMBER 4

Ward committee poll process kicks off, 67 councillors in race

SAMAN HUSAIN
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

AMID SLOGANEERING and cheers, 67 councillors from the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), and Congress filed their nominations for the MCD ward committee elections Friday, marking the start of a crucial electoral battle. Delayed by 18 months due to clashes between AAP and BJP, elections for the 12 zones, scheduled for September 4, are vital for many reasons. In addition to electing a chairman and deputy chairman for each ward committee, 12 of the 18 members of the standing committee — MCD’s financial backbone — will also be chosen, one from each ward. No project costing more than Rs 5 crore can proceed without the standing committee’s approval. Arriving at the office of Municipal Secretary Shiva Prasad, AAP workers raised slogans of ‘Arvind Kejriwal Zindabad’ while showering candidates with rose petals and garlanding them. AAP filed nominations in 11 of 12 zones. BJP, on its part, raised slogans of ‘*kyun pade ho chakkar mai, koi nahi hai takkar mai*’ as councillors filed nominations in 10 zones. They were accompanied by West Delhi MP Kamaljeet Sehrawat and Northwest Delhi MP Yogender Chandoliya, both ex-councillors. The Congress, with just 9 councillors, is focusing on the Shahdara South Zone. Some wards could see an interesting contest.

■ In the City SP Zone, for instance, BJP has just two councillors and has decided not to contest. AAP has fielded Ballimaran councillor Mohammad Sadiq for chairman, Kiran Bala from Delhi Gate for deputy chairman, and Punardeep Singh Sawhney from Chandni Chowk for standing committee member. ■ In Karol Bagh too, BJP is not contesting. It has two councillors in this ward. AAP’s Rakesh Joshi, Jyoti Gautam, and Ankush Narang are nominated for the posts. ■ In Keshavpuram, the BJP,



BJP and AAP councillors file their nominations. *Express*

with 13 councillors here, fielded Yogesh Verma for chairman, Sushil for deputy chairman, and Shikha Bharadwaj for standing committee member. AAP, with two councillors, is not contesting. ■ In Shahdara South, a three-way contest is on the cards for all three posts. Vying for the chairman’s post are AAP’s Priyanka Saxena from Gorakh Park, BJP’s Pramod Gupta from Yamuna Vihar, and Congress’ Zarif from Kabir Nagar. The deputy chairman seat features AAP’s Roshan Lal, BJP’s Ritesh Suji, and Congress’ Nazia Khatoon; the standing committee member nominations include AAP’s Chhaya Gaurav Sharma, BJP’s Satyapal Singh, and Congress’ Sabila Begum. ■ In Central zone, Sugandha, a Tughlakabad councillor who recently switched from AAP to BJP, will challenge AAP’s Hem Chand Goel from Molarband for the chairperson’s position. Three other councillors who were elected on an AAP ticket had been nominated by BJP — Sunder Singh from Bhati and Pawan Kumar from Bawana are contesting for the post of chair-

person from South and Narela zones. Sunita from Dwarka-C ward is contesting for the post of deputy chairman from Najafgarh. ■ The Rohini zone will see an internal BJP battle for the deputy chairman’s post as Dharambir Sharma from Rohini-C Ward and Narender Kumar Singh from Rithala have filed nominations. Dharam Rakshak from Mangolpuri-A is also in the race from AAP. Among BJP’s nominees, seven have prior experience in leadership roles in the MCD. They include Raja Iqbal Singh, the current Leader of Opposition and former mayor of erstwhile North MCD, who is contesting from Civil Lines, and Parvesh Wahli, former chairman of the standing committee, running from Rohini zone. AAP’s nominees include two former leaders of opposition — Parveen Kumar from West and Prem Chauhan from South zones. The mayor will now appoint presiding officers to oversee the election in each zone, who will be responsible for ensuring smooth and fair proceedings, a senior MCD official associated with the election process said.

‘100% not inclined to entertain...’: HC on pleas by AAP councillors

They sought to reschedule internal MCD polls, take appeal

SOHINI GHOSH
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

HEARING TWO pleas by AAP councillors seeking the postponement of the MCD ward committee elections, the Delhi High Court orally remarked Friday that they could have filed their nomination papers instead of filing petitions before the court. As the court of Justice Purushendra Kaurav expressed that it was “100% not inclined” to entertain the pleas, Prem Chauhan and Tilotma Chaudhary withdrew their pleas. Senior advocate Rahul Mehra, appearing for Chauhan, argued that a week’s time was granted to file nomination papers during elections for ward committees in the past, but it was reduced to only a day this time. As Mehra submitted that it was an “issue of free and fair elections”, Justice Kaurav

orally inquired: “You could file a petition, get it notarised, and you can’t file papers?” To this, Mehra responded that the petitioner was “indisposed” and that filing nomination papers required him to look for a proposer and a seconder, which needs time. Justice Kaurav said, “If you sincerely want to participate in an election, you should have gone to the corporation instead of coming to court... it’s not that you were not anticipating these elections... 28th (August) this was issued (notification announcing the timeline of polls for the ward committee). You could have prepared.” The judge added: “I don’t find any reason why you can’t have a proposer, a seconder... the court can’t guide them that keep it in a week, keep it for five days etc.. The consistent approach of the court is not to interfere with elections.” Mehra pressed on: “Why this pressing hurry? Shouldn’t an elec-

tion involve everybody...? It’ll be a limited election, everybody won’t be able to participate...” To this, Justice Kaurav said, “Sometimes, in an election context, ‘approaching’ can also be horse trading... (I) have some experience in Madhya Pradesh (while adjudicating matters). So this (less time for filing nomination papers) ensures less time for that.” Mehra contended, “Having 2-3 days more would ensure this aspect of horse trading doesn’t take place... 2-3 days won’t make any difference to anyone.” Mehra, though, clarified that the intent is not to delay the elections overall. Chaudhary’s counsel too impressed that the short notice “doesn’t leave me enough leg room to organise my affairs”, before hurriedly clarifying that he is “talking about paperwork, not horse trading,” leaving the judge laughing and clarifying that he is not saying or implying anything.

MEET THREE FIRST-GENERATION LEARNERS FROM ACROSS COUNTRY AT ASHOKA UNIVERSITY

‘I come from a conservative family... no one has ever sent a girl so far away...’

VIDHEESHA KUNTAMALLA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

COMING ALL the way from Warangal, Telangana, 17-year-old Velpula Shiva Raju was apprehensive that he would not be able to make friends at Ashoka University. “I thought I would be judged for the kind of background I come from. Plus, there was the language barrier,” says Raju, son of a carpenter, who had not set foot in Delhi-NCR before. A few weeks later, though, much of his doubts were put to rest. “I can’t speak much Hindi. But everyone has been kind here so far,” he says. Raju is among the 48 first-generation college goers from

their families to have secured admission at the Ashoka University as part of its Academic Bridge Programme under which the entire fees of the students is waived off. The programme commenced in 2018; this year, as many as 29 women have been admitted under it — highest in three years as per data provided by the varsity. One of these women is Monisha P, an 18-year-old from Bengaluru. The daughter of a house help mother and a construction worker father, she is experiencing many firsts on campus. “I have never been to a gym before. I have only looked at it from outside,” she shares with *The Indian Express*. “Now, I work out regularly.” Monisha is studying Biology and Computer Science at the uni-



(From left) Monisha P, Velpula Shiva Raju and Alsiya Tabrez Sheikh. *Express*

versity. Reaching the portals of the prestigious university, situated in Sonapat, was fraught with challenges for Monisha. “I had to convince my mother for six months. There were safety concerns about sending me so far. Plus, we did not have enough funds for me to even afford the trip to Delhi. But somehow, arrangements were made

and I managed to get to the campus to start a new journey,” says Monisha, who has three siblings. Safety was one issue that Alsiya Tabrez Sheikh, a 19-year-old from Pune, could also relate with. “I come from a conservative family. No one has ever sent a girl child so far away in my extended family. When I first came

to Delhi and then entered this campus, I felt like I had come to a different country,” says Sheikh. “Going to college is truly a dream come true.” Sheikh’s mother is a housewife while her father works at a private company. Oldest among four siblings, she credits her school. “If it wasn’t for this op-

portunity, I would have been married off by now,” she tells *The Indian Express*. A student of Computer Science and Entrepreneurship, Sheikh wants to become a “changemaker” by starting her own business. The three students are among those from the Academic Bridge Programme who recently underwent a three-week session aimed at bridging the gap between their academic experience and college curriculum, and allowing them time to settle into campus before the commencement of their undergraduate course. “Initially, I thought I would not be able to fit in here. But now that I am here, I am grateful for this opportunity,” says Raju as he sits in his dormitory. He says the world here is a far cry from home where

he has seen his father work hard to provide for the family. “My seniors from school have also helped me come this far,” says Raju who studied at a government school. He is now pursuing his Bachelors in Computer Science and Entrepreneurship. Like Sheikh, he wants to become a businessman. Monisha, on the other hand, wanted to become a doctor — a dream that she had to give up on due to financial constraints. “We never had the money for me to pursue MBBS. Besides, it takes so long to finish your MBBS and find a job,” she says. Coming from modest backgrounds, these students are not one to take the opportunity to attend college for granted. “My parents had no access to any type of

education, which is why they always felt I should get what they couldn’t achieve,” says Raju as he remembers the time when his household had no income due to the Covid pandemic. With little time to be found between landing in Delhi and attending their classes, the three have not had much of a chance to explore the Capital — something they wish to change in the days to come. “We had no money to even travel to Delhi,” says Monisha. Amid the excitement of new beginnings, homesickness lingers. While Sheikh misses Pune’s famous *misal pav*, Raju yearns for that comforting bowl of *semiya payasam*, a type of *kheer*. For Monisha, it is her mother’s biryani. “*Mummy ki biryani ki yaad aati hai...*”





Powering the Pledge of Viksit Bharat with New Vande Bharat Trains



Flagging Off of 3 VANDE BHARAT EXPRESS TRAINS

Meerut - Lucknow

Madurai - Bengaluru

Chennai- Nagercoil

by
Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

Through Video Conferencing



31st August 2024



11:00 am

In the august presence of

Ashwini Vaishnaw

Union Minister of Railways, Information &
Broadcasting and Electronics & Information Technology

V. Somanna

Union Minister of State for Railways
and Jal Shakti

Ravneet Singh

Union Minister of State for Railways and
Food Processing Industries

Features



New and upgraded
version of Vande
Bharat Express



Semi High speed
train with mamimum
speed of 180 kmph



Equipped with
anti-collision
'Kavach' system



Airplane-like travel
experience with state-of-the-art
amenities



Special lavatories
for Divyangjan
passengers



Special air conditioning
duct for uniform
air distribution



Bio Vacuum Toilet
with Touch-Free
Features



Ergonomically
designed 360 rotating
recliner seats.



Automatic Doors
with Sliding Foot
Step



Emergency Alarm
Push buttons and Talk
Back Units on all Coaches



32" Passenger Information
and Infotainment System
in each coach



Watch the Programme
Live on DD NEWS

INDIAN RAILWAYS
www.indianrailways.gov.in

Follow us on /RailMinIndia

6 GOVT & POLITICS

KOLKATA DOCTOR'S RAPE AND MURDER

Bose meets Shah amid BJP calls for 'Centre's action'

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

AS THE BJP mounts pressure on the West Bengal government over the recent rape and murder of a trainee woman doctor at R G Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata, provoking widespread protests, Governor C V Ananda Bose met Union Home Minister Amit Shah Friday and briefed him on the situation.

Despite the BJP's demands for "action," highly placed sources said the Centre is "carefully weighing" the steps it can take. While it has kept the political heat on with BJP protests almost a daily feature across the state, it is more circumspect about any intervention that can be seen as the Centre breaching the federal compact, especially when it depends on regional allies.

A leader said: "There is no definite plan yet nor clarity" on the next steps. The Governor too is believed to have updated the Centre on the situation in West Bengal without suggesting any particular action.

Bose was scheduled to meet Union Health Minister J P Nadda to take up the issues raised by the protesting junior doctors in the state. But after the Supreme Court constituted a National Task Force to come up with recommendations regarding improving "the safety, working conditions and well-being of medical professionals", the meeting was cancelled, sources said.

The state BJP, however, continues to demand "stringent" action against the TMC government. "The entire state has turned against Mamata Banerjee and her party. Almost every party including allies like Congress have expressed disapproval over the administration in West Bengal," said a BJP leader.

Earlier, President Droupadi Murmu told *PTI* that "enough was enough" while talking about the Kolkata incident, saying she was "dismayed and horrified" at the crimes against women.

State BJP leaders believe the Centre could have taken disciplinary action against top police officials accused of mishandling the

MAMATA WRITES TO MODI AGAIN

Kolkata: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi — her second letter to him in a week — countering the claim made in a letter sent to her by the Minister of Women and Child Development that the West Bengal government did not establish a single fast track court in the state. Banerjee said 88 fast-track special courts and 62 POCSO-designated courts are functioning in West Bengal on state funding. **ENS**

case, or sent a fact-finding team.

BJP Darjeeling MP Raju Bista told *The Indian Express* that Mamata also deserved to face action over her public warning that if the BJP stoked "fire" in her state, it could expect a strong reaction in Assam, Bihar, Manipur and Odisha, states with large Bengali-speaking populations.

BJP Chief Ministers Himanta Biswa Sarma (Assam), N Biren Singh (Manipur), Mohan Charan Majhi (Odisha) and Pema Khandu (Arunachal Pradesh) had reacted sharply to her remarks.

Bista said: "I come from the critical chicken neck region (the narrow strip of land that connects the Northeastern states to the rest of the country), and I take her threat very seriously. This direct threat to our national integrity is unprecedented."

The Darjeeling MP accused the Mamata government of "continuing to run the state against the letter and the spirit of the Constitution".

Another party leader said the BJP should guard against allowing the situation to get "polarised" into a direct tussle with the TMC in the state which

"would not help the BJP much politically", given the loyalty that Mamata still commands. However, the leader said, "If we don't keep up the heat against the CM, this issue will also die down as yet another protest."



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



PROMISE KEPT

Uttarakhand Agriculture Minister Ganesh Joshi got emotional while speaking at an event attended by Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah on Friday. "I had never thought in my life... I was just a soldier in the Army. When I became an MLA, my name was also being discussed for a ministerial berth but I wasn't selected. Then I came to meet Amit Shah-ji. He asked me whether I was alright. I said, 'Sir I am fine but I don't have a God father.' I hope you (Shah) remember it," Joshi told Shah. He said Shah had told him then that whenever there would be a Cabinet expansion in the state, he would be made a minister. "I don't have words because today a small person like me is sitting with you (Shah)," Joshi said.

BALANCING ACT

The Congress leadership in Haryana is being cautious while balancing internal equations. While the party high command has made it clear that the Leader of Opposition in the state, Bhupinder Singh Hooda, will be the face of the party as he is its best bet in the elections, senior Congress leaders are ensuring that the others are kept in good humour. Recently, when senior party leader Kumari Selja objected to the appointment of a leader in the war room, CPP chairperson Sonia Gandhi ensured her concerns were addressed. Soon, the leader was replaced.

TASKS TOO MANY

BJP MP Jagdambika Pal had a packed schedule this week. He was in Delhi Thursday to attend the meeting of the Parliamentary Committee on Public Accounts. Later in the day, he travelled to Lucknow for a meeting with Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on the floods in his Lok Sabha seat Domariyanagji. His tour to his home state was short as he travelled to Delhi Friday morning to chair two consecutive meetings of the joint committee of Parliament on the Waqf Amendment Bill. Pal was in Lucknow earlier this week, too, to attend a session on the Waqf Bill.

IN PALGHAR, LAUNCHES VADHVAN PORT PROJECT

PM apologises for collapse of Shivaji statue in Maharashtra: 'A deity for us'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, AUGUST 30

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi Friday apologised for the collapse of the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj statue at the Rajkot Fort in Maharashtra's Sindhudurg district, saying the Maratha ruler was "not just a king for me and my colleagues, but a figure highly revered and worshipped by all". Modi was addressing a public gathering at Palghar, where he laid the foundation stone of the Vadhvan Port.

"For me, my colleagues and everyone, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj is not just a king. He is highly revered and worshipped. For us, he is our *aaradhya dev* (revered deity)," Modi said. "I also extend my apologies to all



PM Narendra Modi with Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde and Deputy CMs Devendra Fadnis and Ajit Pawar in Palghar on Friday. *ANI*

those who worship Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj as their revered deity. I know their sentiments are hurt," he added.

Inaugurated by Modi on Navy Day on December 4 last year, the 35-ft Shivaji statue collapsed on August 26, leaving the



Former Jharkhand Chief Minister Champai Soren with Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma, Jharkhand BJP chief Babulal Marandi and party leader Arjun Munda after joining the BJP, in Ranchi on Friday. *PTI*

One Soren replaces another in Jharkhand Cabinet as former CM Champai joins BJP

ABHISHEK ANGAD
RANCHI, AUGUST 30

ON A day former Jharkhand chief minister and Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) stalwart Champai Soren joined the BJP, Ghatshila MLA Ramdas Soren replaced him in the state Cabinet after taking oath as a minister on Friday.

Jharkhand Governor Santosh Gangwar administered the oath to Ramdas in the presence of Chief Minister Hemant Soren,

senior leaders of the JMM-led coalition government, and top bureaucrats.

Though Ramdas's Cabinet post is yet to be announced, he would likely be given similar portfolios as Champai. Sources said that ahead of the upcoming Assembly polls in the state, Hemant Soren would be keen on retaining the Kolhan belt — it comprises 14 Assembly seats, including Saraikela, Champai's constituency, and Ghatshila, Ramdas's seat — with the JMM.

In the 2019 Assembly polls, the BJP had not been able to win any seat in the Kolhan belt, where 11 seats were won by the JMM,

two by the Congress, and one seat by an Independent. "Hemant Soren wants to repeat the 2019 performance and has been focusing on the Kolhan region. Past ministers include Deepak Birua, Jobha Manjhi (now an MP) and now Ramdas Soren. The idea is to trump the dent that Champai is thinking of making in the region," a JMM source said.

HAL, SAFHAL sign deal to develop high-power engines for helicopters

AMRITA NAYAK DUTTA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

STATE-OWNED Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) Friday signed a contract with SAFHAL Helicopter Engines Private Limited for the joint design, development and production of a new-generation high-power engine called 'Aravalli' for two helicopters which it is designing and developing.

Aravalli will power the 13-tonne medium lift class Indian

multi-role helicopter (IMRH) and the deck-based multi-role helicopter (DBMRH).

SAFHAL is a joint venture between Safran Helicopter Engines SAS and HAL and is tasked with the design, development, production and sales of new-generation helicopter engines in India.

The IMRH is likely to be ready in the next eight to 10 years and will replace the Russian Mi-17s which will start getting phased out by 2028. The 12.5-ton DBMRH is being developed by HAL for the Indian Navy.

Govt launches simplified form for pension

New Delhi: In a move to simplify the pension process for retiring government officials, the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions Friday launched a single pension application form that combines nine separate forms to be filled by superannuating employees.

The single form, Form 6-A, will include the details of the pensioner, their family members and declarations. The retiring officials will be able to fill the form through the e-HRMS or Bhavishya portals of the government.

Minister of State Dr Jitendra Singh said the new unified form was designed to streamline the process and reduce time taken for applying for pension. **ENS**

LALMANI VERMA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

WHEN THE BJP conducted an internal review after the setback in the Lok Sabha elections, one of the reasons repeatedly cited was the leak of exam question papers that was said to have left candidates and their families unhappy with the party. One such major leak occurred in Uttar Pradesh in February when the question paper for the UP Police constable examination was circulated on social media, dashing the hopes of 48 lakh candidates who had registered for the exam to fill 60,244 constable posts.

With fresh exams being held between August 22 and 31 in 67 of UP's 75 districts, the RSS has stepped in and made arrange-

Shah urges Uttarakhand farmers to move towards organic farming

HARIKISHAN SHARMA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

UNION MINISTER of Home and Cooperation Amit Shah Friday urged Uttarakhand farmers to adopt organic farming. He was speaking on the occasion of signing of an MoU between National Co-operative Organics Ltd (NCOL) and Uttarakhand Jaivik Utpad Parishad for procurement of organic cereals to provide better rates to farmers for their produce.

"I also request the farmers of Uttarakhand to keep their fields clean, make them purely organic and move towards natural farming... If Uttarakhand becomes 100 per cent organic, there may not be a requirement for testing centres. I believe, even chemical fertiliser shops will be shut down," Shah said.

He also linked the rise in diseases like cancer, thyroid issues, and diabetes to the increased use of chemical fertilisers in agriculture. Shah said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has set a goal of doubling farmers' income, of which one of the points was to increase income through organic farming. Shah said that chemical fertilizers not only af-

fect human health but also have an impact on farm land. Due to excessive use of fertilizers, the soil loses its fertility, he said. Shah said that when the BJP mentioned organic farming in its manifesto, many observers were surprised. "They even asked why organic farming found a place in the BJP's manifesto," Shah said.

Shah said NCOL, set up to address gaps in the organic farming sector, plans to establish a network of testing labs in collaboration with Amul. These labs will verify both organic farms and produce, aiming to create trusted 'Bharat' organic brands.

Shah said the collapse of the statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj has sparked a war of words between ruling and Opposition parties in poll-bound Maharashtra. Initially, Chief Minister Eknath Shinde said the statue collapsed due to heavy winds along the shore. And Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis had said the statue was built by the Navy, not the state government.

With the initial response not going down well with the BJP's central leadership, 48 hours later, Shinde said he would not mind "apologising a 1,000 times" for the incident.

Addressing the public gathering at Palghar after launching the ₹76,000-crore Vadhvan Port project, Modi said Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's legacy has been

Assam House scraps 3-hour break used for Friday prayers

SUKRITA BARUAH
GUWAHATI, AUGUST 30

THE ASSAM Legislative Assembly Friday did away with a provision in its Rules of Procedure, under which the House used to be adjourned between 11 am to 2 pm on Fridays.

Though the Rules of Procedure did not explicitly mention that this was to enable Muslim MLAs to offer Friday prayers, the Assam government, while announcing the decision, said that this was the purpose of the rule.

Rule 11 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assam Legislative Assembly stated: "The House shall ordinarily commence from 9:30 am to 2 pm on all weekdays except Fridays and Saturday. On Friday, the House shall sit from 9:30 am to 11:30 am and 3 pm to 5 pm."

With the amendment approved by the Assembly Friday, from next session onwards, the House will sit for the same hours on Friday as the rest of the week.

Speaker Biswajit Daimary told reporters that this was a provision unique to the Assam Assembly, introduced during the premiership of Muhammad Saadullah in pre-Independence Assam.

"Since I've become Speaker,

ignored for decades as the warrior king recognised the importance of trade through sea routes and strengthened it. Stating that the project had remained on paper for 60 years, Modi said that when Fadnis became the chief minister in 2014, he expedited the project. "It was cleared in 2016 and in 2020, the process was set rolling," he said.

Set to be operational by 2030, the Vadhvan Port will ease the burden on the Jawaharlal Nehru Port. Located around 150 km from Mumbai, the port will have a capacity of 300 mta with nine container terminals. The port will provide a fillip to India's connectivity with Russia and Central Asia through the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) and India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC).

I've noticed that on Friday, when there's some important matters to discuss, it becomes very difficult for time. The other thing is that in today's day and age, everybody is very conscious about their rights. People of other religions have also sometimes started saying that we should also get some time for prayers..." he said.

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma posted on social media: "By doing away with the two-hour Jumma break, the Assam Assembly has prioritised productivity and shed another vestige of colonial baggage. This practice was introduced by Muslim League's Syed Saadulla in 1937..."

While the amendment was not protested in the house, Dhingh MLA from AIUDF Aminul Islam, who is also a part of the Rules Committee, claimed that the Speaker had told members that he was facing pressure from BJP members. "Apart from Jammu and Kashmir, the highest number of Muslim MLAs is in Assam. So if there's no break and if they all go to do jumma namaz during that time, a lot of work of the assembly where their participation is involved, they will be absent. That's why it was given," he told reporters.

PM to visit Brunei and Singapore in first week of September

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi will visit Brunei on September 3 and 4 — the first bilateral visit by any Indian PM to the tiny nation — followed by a trip to Singapore on September 4 and 5.

Modi will be in Singapore at the invitation of Prime Minister Lawrence Wong. "The leaders will review the progress of India-Singapore Strategic Partnership and exchange views on regional and global issues of mutual interest," said a statement by the Ministry of External Affairs on Friday.

The visit to Brunei — at the invitation of its ruler and Prime Minister Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah — coincides with 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between India and the country, which is located on the island of Borneo.

Noting that Brunei is an important partner in India's 'Act East' Policy and its vision of Indo-Pacific, the MEA statement said the visit will strengthen India's cooperation with Brunei in existing sectors — defence cooperation, trade and investment, energy, space technology, health, capacity building, culture as well as people-to-people exchanges — while also exploring avenues for cooperation in newer sectors.

During the visit to Singapore, PM Modi will hold a bilateral meeting with President Tharman Shanmugaratnam. He will also meet business leaders.

After 'vomit' comment by minister, NCP threatens to quit Mahayuti

MANOJ MORE
PUNE, AUGUST 30

HOURS AFTER Maharashtra Health Minister Tanaji Sawant of the Shinde Sena said he "vomits" after sitting with NCP ministers in cabinet meetings, the Ajit Pawar-led party threatened Friday to quit the Mahayuti government.

"Either Sawant remains in the Mahayuti cabinet or our party. If he is not immediately sacked, we will quit the government. Our national president Ajit Pawar too should immediately quit the cabinet," NCP spokesperson Umesh Patil said.

The NCP spokesperson said Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar will not attend any cabinet meeting until Chief Minister Eknath Shinde takes a decision on Sawant. "Apart from our party president, all of our ministers should boycott cabinet meetings till Sawant is sacked. We will not accept an apology or a statement that he was misinterpreted. We want him out immediately," Patil said.

During a public event in Dharashiv on Thursday, Sawant said: "I never got along with Congress and NCP all my life. In the cabinet meeting, when we sit next to each other, I come out of the meeting and vomit."

"Arrangements of stay, refreshments and food packets have been made in all the cities where examinations are being held, especially in major cities. The arrangements are completely free of cost. For female candidates, separate arrangements have been made on school campuses."

Asked if it was being done to control the damage caused by paper leaks, the RSS leader denied it had anything to do with the election results. Another RSS functionary said: "The RSS is doing this as its own initiative. Certainly, when the RSS reaches out to people, it politically benefits the BJP."

The Sangh's efforts come at a time the Yogi Adityanath-led state government is trying to address joblessness among the youth, concentrating on areas where 10 bypolls are set to be held soon.



CSC CONCLAVE
Doval discusses transnational threats with member NSAs

Colombo: National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and the representatives of the Maldives, Mauritius and Sri Lanka on Friday signed the Charter and an MoU for the establishment of the Colombo Security Conclave Secretariat here to promote regional security by addressing transnational threats and challenges of common concern to the member states.

The Colombo Security Conclave (CSC) brings together National Security Advisors (NSA) and Deputy NSAs from India, Sri Lanka, Maldives and Mauritius.

It deals with maritime security, counter-terrorism and cyber security with India bringing to the fore its own strategic concerns in the Indian Ocean and promotes regional security by addressing transnational threats and challenges of common concern to the Member States.

"Pursuant to the discussions at the 6th NSA level meeting of CSC held in December 2023 in Mauritius, the Charter & Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the establishment of the CSC Secretariat were signed in Colombo on August 30, 2024 by India, Maldives, Mauritius and Sri Lanka", the Indian High Commission here said.

LS poll defeat is a reflection of my popularity, not BJP's: Manipur CM

Vows peace in 6 months, rules out resignation & separate administration for Kukis

VIJAY JOSHI & KUMAR RAKESH
IMPHAL, AUGUST 30

WITH ETHNIC violence gradually subsiding, Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh has promised to fully restore peace in the state in six months with the Centre's help, and also ruled out stepping down, saying he has neither committed a crime nor spawned a scandal.

In an interview with PTI Videos here on Thursday, Singh said that he has appointed an emissary to hold talks with Kuki-zo and Meitei leaders. The clashes between the Kuki-zo and Meitei ethnic groups since May 2023 has left 226 dead, according to official count. He identified the emissary as Dinganglung Gangmei, a Naga MLA and the chairman of the Hill Area Committee.

Singh said along with dialogue, the Central government's involvement will be critical in bringing peace.

"I don't think it will stretch long. Within 5-6 months peace should return. It is our hope and I am also confident," said Singh, who is a Meitei and remains



Chief Minister N Biren Singh in Imphal on Friday. PTI

largely mistrusted by the Kukis.

During the interview he repeatedly emphasised that he does not want to identify himself as a Meitei when he is sitting on the chair. "I am a CM for all".

Singh said the origins of the conflict go back to his first terms as CM in 2017-2022 when he cracked down on illegal drug trade and migration from neighbouring Myanmar.

Singh said a Manipur High Court decision in March 2023 recommending scheduled tribe (ST) status to Meiteis further fuelled anger among Kukis who felt their rights were being diluted, although the court order was not implemented by Singh's government. The High Court itself withdrew the paragraph on ST status

from its order in February this year. The conflict has also extracted a political cost on PM Narendra Modi who has been criticized by the opposition and his critics for not visiting Manipur.

"The PM may not have come but he has sent his home minister. And PM has so often spoken about Manipur, even from Lal Quila on Independence Day... and whatever is being done here in terms of security, funding etc, is under his leadership only. In a complex situation a PM coming was not necessary," Singh said.

According to Singh, the BJP's loss in both Lok Sabha seats from Manipur, including the Meitei-dominated Inner Manipur, was a reflection on his popularity, and not because his party was any less popular.

He also made it clear that he will not tolerate pro-Meitei militant outfits, such as Arambai Tengol, which has openly advocated violence against Kukis.

"I told them you will not do any anti-national or communal act. You have to support the government. I gave clear warning 'you will not say anything'. Not one word has come from their mouth in 5 months. I will not let

them be extremist, anti-national," he said.

Singh, whose move to resign was dramatically foiled by his supporters who snatched and tore his resignation letter in full public view during the peak of the unrest last year, said he has no intention of quitting now.

"Why should I resign? Have I stolen anything? Is there a scandal against me? Have I worked against the nation or state? I have saved the state from illegal migration, illegal poppy cultivation. My job is to protect Manipur and people of Manipur. There is no question (of resigning)," he said.

He also rejected the demand of Kukis for a separate administration. "Manipur is a small state. Our forefathers have a history of 2000 years. Many sacrifices were made to make this state. This state can't be broken or have a separate administration. We will not allow this," he said.

However, one can look at what can be done through the autonomous councils with focus on development, he said. He added that it is important to develop hill areas for which he will request the Centre to give a special package.

Manipur orders precautionary measures ahead of Kuki-Zo rallies

Imphal: Ahead of protest rallies by Kuki-Zo groups Saturday, the Manipur government has instructed authorities to take precautionary measures to avoid untoward incidents. The rallies are expected to be among the biggest since violence broke out across Manipur last year.

The rallies in Kuki-Zo areas are being organised to protest a viral tape, purportedly of Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh, that has caused widespread outrage among the community. The protesters are also seeking a separate administration.

The student bodies have urged business establishments, government offices and private institutions to remain shut during the protest.

The state Home department said in an order: "Any such act of issuing public notice for organising a mass rally and urging to shut down institutions which can pose grave impact on the prevailing law and order situation and which are likely to pose serious repercussions in the context of the ongoing law and order crisis in the State, is viewed very seriously by the State Government with utmost sensitivity."

Speaker invites artisans to view their works in new Parliament

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

DAYS AFTER 400-odd artisans, who created a set of installations for the new Parliament building, sought his intervention to view their works, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla Friday invited them to

take a guided tour of the Parliament.

As reported by *The Indian Express* on August 29, Jaya Jaitly, president-founder of Dastkari Haat Samiti, had written to Birla on August 27 seeking permission for them to be allowed inside the gallery, when the House is not in session.

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF BANKING & FINANCE
CIN : U91110MH1928GAP001391
Tel. : +91-8069280700 E-Mail: admin@iibf.org.in

NOTICE is hereby given for the 97th Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of the Institute will be held on **Saturday, 21st September, 2024 at 11.30 A.M. IST through Two-Way Video Conferencing ("VC") Other Audio-Visual Mode ("OAVM") ONLY** to transact the Business, as set out in the Notice for the 97th AGM. The AGM will be held through VC/OAVM without the physical presence of the members at a common venue in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and Rules framed thereunder read with Circulars dated April 8th, 2020, April 13th, 2020, December 31st, 2020, January 12th, 2021, May 5th, 2022, December 28th, 2022 and September 25th, 2023 respectively issued by Ministry of Corporate Affairs ("MCA Circulars"). The registered office of the Institute shall be deemed to be the venue for the meeting.

In compliance with the aforesaid circulars, the Annual Report of the Company for 2023-24 along with the Notice of the AGM has been dispatched by e-mail to all the members whose e-mail addresses are available and registered with the Institute on **30th August, 2024**. The requirement for sending the physical copy of the 97th AGM Notice and Annual Report to members has been dispensed vide MCA Circulars. Accordingly, the facility for appointment of proxies by the Members will not be available for the AGM. A copy of the Notice of the AGM along with the Annual Report is available on the website of the Institute at <https://www.iibf.org.in/AnnualReport.asp> and website of NSDL at <https://www.evoting.nsdl.com>.

Remote E-Voting and E-Voting at the AGM

In compliance with Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 20 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014, Members are provided with the facility to cast their votes on all resolutions set forth in the Notice of the AGM using electronic voting system ('remote e-voting'), provided by National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) and the business may be transacted through such voting. The details for the e-voting pursuant to the Act and the Rules are hereunder:

- The Ordinary Business and Special Business as set out in the AGM may be transacted through voting by electronic means. The Notice for AGM along with e-voting instructions is available along with the Annual Report on the website of the Institute at www.iibf.org.in and website of NSDL <https://www.evoting.nsdl.com>.
- Institutional members are required to send a scanned copy (PDF/JPG Format) of its Board or Governing Body Resolution/Authorization etc., authorizing its representative to attend the AGM through VC / OAVM on its behalf and to vote through remote e-voting. The said Resolution/ Authorization shall be sent to the Scrutinizer by email through its registered email address to scrutiniser@csdakat.com with a copy marked to evoting@nsdl.com.
- The remote e-voting period commences on **Tuesday, 17th September, 2024 (9.00 AM IST)** and ends on **Friday, 20th September, 2024 (5.00 PM IST)** (both days inclusive). During this period, the Members may cast their vote electronically. The e-voting module shall be disabled by NSDL thereafter and remote e-voting will not be permitted beyond the prescribed time.
- The cut-off date for determining the eligibility status of members for voting through remote e-voting and at the AGM is **14th September, 2024**.
- Further, in pursuance to the Articles of Association, only institutional Members, Associate Members and Fellow Members will be authorized to vote through e-voting at the AGM. Associate and Fellow Members shall be entitled to one vote per person and institutional Members shall be entitled to one vote for every Rs. 1,000/- in contribution towards their Annual Subscription Fees as on the cut-off date. Any person, who is an Institutional, Associate or Fellow Member of the Institute as on the cut-off date is eligible to cast vote on all the resolutions set forth in the Notice of AGM using remote e-voting or voting at the AGM (only through E-voting system). Other members may please treat this Notice for information purpose only.
- The facility for voting through electronic voting system shall also be made available at the AGM and Members who have not already cast their vote by remote e-voting shall be able to exercise their right at the AGM. The Members who have cast their vote by remote e-voting prior to the AGM may also attend the AGM but shall not be allowed to cast their vote again at the AGM.
- A person who has become a member of the Institute after the dispatch of notice of AGM and having right to vote as of cut-off date, may obtain the login ID and password by sending a request at evoting@nsdl.com. However, if the person is already registered with NSDL for remote e-voting then the existing user ID and password can be used for casting vote.
- Those members whose email address are not registered with the Institute may register their email address with Institute by sending email to **Mr. Dharmvir Marchino, Deputy Director** on dd.mss@iibf.org.in.
- For details relating to remote e-voting and E-Voting at AGM, please refer to the Notice of the AGM. In case of any queries relating to voting by electronic means, please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and e-voting user manual for Members available at the Downloads section of www.evoting.nsdl.com or contact Mr. Sanjeev Yadav, Senior Manager, NSDL, 3rd Floor, Naman Chambers, Plot C32, G-Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai - 400051. Email: evoting@nsdl.com / Tel: 022-44867000. Members may also write to Mr. Dharmvir Marchino, Deputy Director on dd.mss@iibf.org.in.

The Notes to the AGM Notice contain the detailed instructions for manner of attendance and e-voting at the AGM for all Voting and Non-voting members. Members are requested to refer to the same for attending the AGM.

Threat calls to Gadkari: NIA wants to close case, but Maharashtra police has chargesheeted three

SADAF MODAK
MUMBAI, AUGUST 30

IN A curious turn of events in the probe into threat calls made to Union minister Nitin Gadkari in January and March 2023, the Maharashtra police have named three persons as accused in the case while the NIA has proposed to close the case citing 'lack of evidence'.

The NIA, which took over the probe in July 2023, informed the

court in Mumbai this week that it wants to close the case. The Maharashtra police, which continued their probe even after the NIA was roped in, filed a chargesheet on September 2023 against three persons, alleging terror links.

The incident at the centre of the probe occurred in 2023. Two FIRs were filed by the Dhantoli police in Nagpur for alleged threat calls to the public relations officer of Gadkari with demands of Rs 100 crore in the first call on January 14, 2023, and Rs 10 crore

in the second call on March 21.

Initially, one Jayesh Pujari was identified as an accused. Later two more — Afsar Pasha and Mohammed Shaker — were found involved in the case. The police claimed they had terror links and invoked sections of UAPA in the case.

After terror links emerged, the MHA directed the NIA to take over the probe. The agency filed its FIR on July 14, 2023.

As per procedure, once an FIR is filed by the NIA, the case has to

be transferred to the agency. The case can be heard only by a notified court, designated under the NIA Act. In Maharashtra, these courts are in Mumbai. Therefore, the NIA moved an application before the special court in Nagpur seeking transfer of the case to Mumbai. On July 18, 2023, the court rejected this application, stating that since the offence took place in Nagpur, the jurisdiction is with the court there.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

कार्यालय नगर निगम, भोपाल

विद्युत शाखा

प्रथम तल, आई.एस.बी.टी. भवन, होशंगाबाद रोड, हबीबगंज, भोपाल-462023

निविदा आमंत्रण घोषणा-पत्र

क्र. 410/वि.शा./2024

भोपाल दिनांक 30.08.2024

निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु दो लिफाफा पद्धति के अनुसार मोहरबंद निविदाएं निष्पत्ति प्रपत्र पर आनलाईन आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र.	आनलाईन टेण्डर नं.	कार्य स्थल का नाम	अनुमानित राशि	घरेलू राशि	निविदा प्रपत्र की कीमत	टेण्डरर की श्रेणी	कार्य हेतु निर्धारित परमाणु राशि	कार्य की अवधि
1	2024_UAD/366844_1	Temporary Lighting arrangement at under BMC, Bhopal, (Empashment Basis) 2024-25	1,49,63,700/-	74,819/-	12,500/-	As per as Tender Document	NON SOR ITEM	12 Month

विषय व शर्तें:-

- निविदा प्रपत्र की निष्पत्ति राशि एवं घरेलू राशि एवं अन्य आवश्यक दस्तावेज आनलाईन प्रस्तुत करने होंगे अन्य समस्त विस्तृत जानकारी www.mptenders.gov.in पर देखी जा सकती है।
- किसी भी निविदा को स्वीकार अथवा अस्वीकार करने का अधिकार विभाग के पास सुरक्षित होगा।

हस्ता./-

प्र. कार्यालय नगर निगम (विद्युत)

नगर निगम भोपाल

निवेदन क्र. 390/024/025

INDIRA GANDHI INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
(A Super Speciality, Autonomous Institute of Govt. of Bihar)
IGIMS Medical College, IGIMS Nursing College
Sheikhpura, Patna-14, EPBX:9612-2297099/2297631, Website: www.igims.org

Tender Notice

Tender Notice No.: 07/2024-2025/PPP Mode IGIMS/Store

Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Patna invites bids from eligible and qualified manufacturers or their authorized distributors / agents for setting up & operationalising of 3 Tesla MRI Scanner at the department of Radiology through Public Private Partnership (PPP) Mode.

The last date of submission of bidding document along with EMD and Tender document fee is **01/10/2024 up to 4:00 P.M.** and the Pre-Bid meeting will be held on **10/09/2024 at 3:00 P.M.** at I.G.I.M.S.-Patna. The technical bids will be opened on **03/10/2024 at 3:00 P.M.**

Details of terms and conditions can be seen and downloaded from Institute Website: www.igims.org.

The undersigned reserves the right to accept / reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason. Prospective bidders are advised to regularly visit www.igims.org for Corrigendum / amendments etc., if any. It will be notified on these portals only and no separate advertisement will be made.

Director, IGIMS, Patna

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.
(CIN: L66010KA1990PLC011409)
Reg. Office: 2nd Floor, No.-3, JVT Towers, 8th A Main Road, Sampang Rama Nagar, Hudson Circle, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560027. Email: customercare@aadharhousing.com

GENERAL NOTICE FOR RELOCATION & SHIFTING OF BRANCH OF THE COMPANY

This is to notify the General Public, Customers and Depositors of the Company - **Aadhar Housing Finance Limited**, that one of the branch located at House No. - 273/352, Old Employment Exchange Bhawan, Kalamang Road, Muzaffarpur (District)- 842001, Bihar, (old address), will be relocated & shifted to new office address Rasulpur Jilani, Holding No.341, 1st Floor, Kalwari Compound, Opp Honda Showroom, Lenin Chowk, Kalamang Road, P-5- Kazi Mohammadpur Ward No.10, Circle Mushahani, Muzaffarpur (District)-842001, Bihar, after 90 days of publication of this notice, due to additional space requirements and administrative reasons. Please refer to the official website <https://aadharhousing.com/#> or Toll-Free number 180030042020 or visit your nearest office for any further assistance.

Date : 30.08.2024

Sd/- Authorized Signatory
Aadhar Housing Finance Limited

UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
Corporate I.D. No. UA40109UP2001SGC025867/2358,
V.C.V. Gatar, Simpi Uja Bhawan, Kameel Road, Dehradun-248001,
Ph. No. 0135-2763672-75, Fax 0135-2763630
Website: www.tenderwizard.com/UPCL

DATE EXTENSION OF e-TENDER NOTICE-I

In reference to this office e-tender specification No. 02 and 05/SE (MM)/2024-25 for sale of **Various type scrap material** available under ESD/EWD, Dehradun, which is to be opened on 29.08.2024, are hereby extended. Revised Date & time of online request for purchase of tender document & submission of tender in online and offline mode will be 06.09.2024 upto 17:00 hrs. and revised date of for opening of tender will be 07.09.2024 (as per pre-determined time).

All other terms and conditions will remain same. For further details, please visit website www.uktenders.gov.in.

Superintending Engineer (MM)

No.: 420/EE(CM)/UPCL/A-2 Date:- 29.08.2024

"SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION". Use L.E.D. Bulb to Save Electricity (Toll Free No. 1912) "Pay Electricity bill online 24x7 from www.upcl.org ". (For information on Electricity theft, informer may report to Toll Free No. 18001804185/Fax No. 0135-2760911)

UJVNL Limited
HO "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephones: 0135-2763808 & Fax: 0135- 2763508
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvnl.com

पत्र सं. 769 **Tender Notice** दिनांक: 30.08.2024

Office of Executive Engineer (E&M-I), Lakhwar Project, Dakpathar, invites sealed tenders from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:

Tender No: 07/EE(E&M-I)/LP/2024-25

Name of the Work: Annual maintenance Contract for 33 KV, 11 KV Feeders & LT lines of Lakhwar MPP, Dakpathar, Dehradun Estimated Cost: Rs.24.92,147.00(taxes extra)

Date of availability of bid document on website :31/08/2024

Last Date for submission of tender:23/09/2024 up to 16:00 hrs.

For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam's website www.ujvnl.com

Executive Engineer (E&M-I)

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Shanthinagara Division, 9th Floor, P.U. Building,
M.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560001.

No: EE/SN/TEND/10/2024-25 Date: 30-08-2024

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)

(Two Cover Tender) (Through GOK KPP Portal Only)

The Executive Engineer (Shanthinagara Division), BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Tenderers registered in BBMP / CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES / any State or Central Government Organizations for the Work detailed below. (Standard Tender Document - KW-4)

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Upgradation & Re-Development of Mahatma Gandhi Plaza at M.G. Road in Ward No.167. (Call-3) - Approximated Amount of Work (Rs. in Lakhs): 400.00, EMD (in Rs.): 600000.00

Calendar of Events: 1) RFP Documents may be downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> from **04-09-2024 onwards.** 2) Pre Bid Meeting will be held on **18-09-2024 at 15.30 Hours in the Office of the Chief Engineer, East Zone, 9th Floor, Public Utility Building, Bengaluru - 560001.** 3) Last Date for Submission of Tender Documents on or before **16.00 Hours on 24-09-2024.** 4) Technical Bids will be Opened on the Website: <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> on **25-09-2024 at 16.30 Hours in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Shanthinagar Division.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Shanthinagar Division, BBMP.

इंडियन बैंक Indian Bank

Whereas, The undersigned being the authorised officer of the **Indian Bank** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rules 8 and 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a Demand Notice u/s 13(2) on the date noted against the Account as mentioned hereinafter, calling upon the borrower to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 and 9 of the said rules on the date noted against the account mentioned hereinafter.

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Indian Bank for an amount noted against the accounts as mentioned hereinafter with further interest, cost, other charges thereon.

We draw attention to the provisions of section 13(8) of the SARFAESI Act and the rules framed there under which deals with your rights of redemption over the securities.

Sl. No.	Name of the Account	Name & address of the Borrower/Guarantor (Owner of the property)	Date of Demand Notice	Amount outstanding in the Demand Notice
	Branch Name	DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY	Date of Possession Notice	
1.	M/s Reshma Cold Storage Pvt. Ltd. B/o: Patliputra Colony, Bihar Branch	1. M/s Reshma Cold Storage Pvt. Ltd. 2. Mr. Roshan Ramanand Paswan (Director & Guarantor), S/o Late Ramanand Paswan 3. Mr. Rahul Ramanand Paswan (Managing Director & Guarantor) S/o Late Ramanand Paswan 4. Smt. Asharfi Devi (Guarantor) W/o Nanki Paswan and 5. Mr. Shyam Paswan (Guarantor) S/o Nanki Paswan	29.05.2024 28.08.2024	Rs. 3,69,34,661.69/- (Rupees Three crore sixty nine lakh thirty four thousand six hundred sixty one and sixty nine paise only) as on 29.05.2024 with further interest, cost, other charges and expenses thereon from 30.05.2024

Description of the immovable property: 1. All part and parcel of land & building in the name of Smt. Asharfi Devi W/o Late nanki Paswan vide **Sale Deed No.-6343 Dated-01.08.2011** in Book No.-01, Jild No.-77, Page No.-445 to 451, CD No.-12, Khata No.-217, Khesra-1244, Mauza-Phulwariya, Area-9.50 Dec. Boundry: N-Chhedil Lal Sah, S-Nij Kharidar, E-Nij Kharidar W-Nij Kharidar. **Sale Deed No.-4503 Dated-31/05/2007** in Book No.-01, Jild No.-423, Page No.-519 to 525, CD No.-04, Khata No.-219, Khesra-1245,1246, 1247, Thana No.-161, Halka-161, Mauza-Phulwariya, Area-27 Dec. Boundry: N-Ram Dayal Singh, S-Nij Kharidar, E-Nij Kharidar & Munka Sah, W-Rural Road. **Sale Deed No.-5359 Dated-04/07/2011** in Book No.-01, Jild No.-65, Page No.-541 to 549, CD No.-11, Khata No.-217, Khesra-1570, Thana No.-161, Mauza-Phulwariya, Area-17 Dec. Boundry: N-Bijli Sah, S-Nij Kharidar, E-Nand Kishore Sah, W-Pyare Sah and Chhedil Sah. **Sale Deed No.-13160 Dated-13.10.2001** in Book No.-01, Jild No.-202, Page No.-549 to 558, Mauza-Phulwariya, Khata No.219 & 196, Khesra-1245,1246,1247, Mauza-Phulwaria, Area-54 Dec. Boundry: N-Vimal Kumar Singh, S-Malti Devi & Jailas Devi, E-Devendra Rai, W-Rural Road. 2. All part and parcel of land & building in the name of Smt. Asharfi Devi, W/o Late Nanki Paswan vide **Sale Deed No.-2389, dated 03.03.2004** in Book No.-1, Jild No.-41, Page No.-117 to 136, Mauza-Chaturangpur Karhan, (Khata-170, Khesra No.-986, Area-24.00 Dec, Khata No.-199 & Khesra-987, Area-26.00 Dec, Khata No.18 & Khesra-992, Area 21.00 Decimal, Total Area 71 Decimal. Boundry: N-Ram Chandra Rai & Ram Nath Singh, S-Mundrika Singh, E-Khesra No.987 & 992 & Satran Rai, W-Khesra Plot No.968 & 985 & 986 & 987 3. All that part and parcel of land & building in the name of Shri Shyam Paswan S/o Nanki Paswan vide **Sale Deed No.-8072 dated 20.09.2010**, Khata No.-87, Khesra No.-760, Mauza-Mahua, Mukundpur, Area-3.00 Dec, Boundry: N-Ram Chandra Rai, S-Punit Rai, E-Nij Vendee, W-Shiv Nandan Rai. **Sale Deed No.-10348 dated 30.12.2009**, Khata No.168, Khesra -754 & 756, Mauza-Mahua Mukundpur, Area-17 Dec. Bondry: N-Ram Chandra Rai & Ram Briksa Rai, S-Road, E-Khesra No.-753, W-Khesra No.-755,756 & 760. Hypothecation Assets: Exclusive Hypothecation of all current assets of the Firm including fully paid up stocks, book debts, receivables and all other current asset both present and future and plant and machinery and other fixed assets of the cold storage situated at Mauza-Phulwaria, Anchal-Mahua vide Lease Deed No.542 dated 19.01.2012

Date : 28.08.2024
Place : Patna

Authorised Officer Indian Bank

For Indian Institute of Banking and Finance

Place: Mumbai
Date: 30th August 2024

Biswa Ketan Das
Chief Executive Officer
DIN: 68067282

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. : JHS/Br/L/2024-25/13 Date : 27.08.2024

(E-TENDER NOTICE
(Two Packet System)

Dy.Chief Engineer/Bridge/Line/Jhansi, North Central Railway, Jhansi for and on behalf of President of India invites open **E-tenders** on the prescribed forms for the under noted work :-

Tender no. :- Br-JHS-2024-16

Approx.Cost of work : Rs. 40.28 Crore/-

Bid Security (Earnest Money) : Rs. 21,63,800/-

Name of work : Jhansi Division: Construction of Road Over Bridge (ROB) in lieu of L.C.No. 341 (Km 1074/8-10) in VGLJ-BINA Section.

Completion period : 18 Months

Date of closing of Tender : 28.09.2024

Eligibility Criteria for similar work : Any bridgework involving erection/launching or regirding of open web girder OR Any bridgework involving erection/launching or regirding of bowstring arch bridge.

Note: (1) The complete information along with tender document of above E-Tenders are available on Website www.iimps.gov.in up to 15:00 hrs. on the due to date of tender closing i.e. **26.09.2024**. (2) Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above tenders. For this purpose, vendors are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with Digital Signature Certificate issued by CCA under IT Act-2000. (3) Rates entered into Financial Rate page and duly signed digitally shall be considered. Rates and any other financial entity in any other form/letter head if attached by vendors shall be straightway ignored and shall not be considered. (4) Document being attached should be signed by the tenderer on its body. (5) Payment of Bid Security (Earnest Money Deposit) (EMD) in respect of e-tendering shall be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only. (6) In case of any difficulty helpdesk available on the website of IREPS may be approached. (7) Tender on line can be submitted up to 15.00 hrs. on dated 26.09.2024. 1528/24 (AS)

North central railways @ www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @ [CPRNCR](https://www.cprnrcr.org)

कार्यालय महाराष्ट्र (अजिंठा)
उपराज्य औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण
E-1/4, तखनपुर, कागपूर

ई-निविदा सूचना

एतद्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि विभिन्न औद्योगिक क्षेत्रों के अर्जन विकास / अनुसंधान / उद्योगिक कार्य हेतु सरकार के विभागों / सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों / विभागों / प्राधिकरणों / निदेशों / नगर विभागों में कारखाने कर्मों / संकेतकों से ई-निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं, जिसको अपवाद के रूप में समझा जाना चाहिए।

1.क़म सं 1 पर अंकित कार्य की निविदा दिनांक 04.09.2024 को पूर्वाह्न 11.00 बजे से दिनांक 12.09.2024 को अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक अपलोड की जा सकती है, जिन्हें दिनांक 13.09.2024 को पूर्वाह्न 11.00 बजे खोला जायेगा (अल्पकालिक)

2.क़म सं 2 व 7 पर अंकित कार्य की निविदा दिनांक 04.09.2024 को पूर्वाह्न 11.00 बजे से दिनांक 25.09.2024 को अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक अपलोड की जा सकती है, जिन्हें दिनांक 26.09.2024 को पूर्वाह्न 11.00 बजे खोला जायेगा (पूर्णकालिक)

निविदादाताओं द्वारा केवल सफलतापूर्वक भरी गयी निविदा प्रस्तावों में जलविद्युत दिनांक तक जांचावर्म में जमा की जा सकती है। ई-निविदा के माध्यम से आमंत्रित की जाने वाली निविदाओं का विवरण निम्नस्त है:-

क्रम सं.	कार्य का नाम	कार्य की लागत (लाख में)
1	Construction of Development of CFC Building at I.A. Sikandrabad Distt. Bulandshahar.	241.08
2	Upgradation of Remaining Roads in Sector B-2 at I.A. TDS City, Ghaziabad	149.79
3	Upgradation of Remaining Roads in Sector A-7 at I.A.	

Akal Takht declares Sukhbir a *tankhaiya* for his ‘mistakes’ as Punjab Deputy CM, SAD chief

KAMALDEEP SINGH BRAR
AMRITSAR, AUGUST 30

THE AKAL Takht Friday declared Shiromani Akali Dal president Sukhbir Singh Badal ‘tankhaiya’ — guilty of violating the Sikh religious code — for the “mistakes” made by him as deputy chief minister and party chief from 2007 to 2017, and the decisions that he took that “deeply harmed the image of the ‘Panth’ and caused damage to Sikh interests”.

The decision to declare Badal ‘tankhaiya’ was taken by the five high priests of the Akal Takht — the supreme temporal seat of the Sikhs. Reading the order, Jathedar Giani Raghubir Singh, the head priest, asked Badal to appear before the Akal Takht within 15 days to seek apology.

“Decisions made during Sukhbir Badal’s tenure as deputy chief minister and president SAD since 2007 have negatively impacted SAD and its condition has deteriorated. Sikh interests have

been harmed. Sukhbir Badal will remain a ‘tankhaiya’ until he apologises for his sins,” said Jathedar. The Akal Takht head priest also directed the Sikh leaders, who were part of the Cabinet in the Akali Dal-led governments from 2007 to 2017, to appear in person to submit their written explanation in 15 days.

Soon after the declaration, Badal, in a post on X, said, “I humbly bow my head and accept the command issued by the Sri Akal Takht Sahib. I will soon present myself before Sri Akal Takht Sahib to seek forgiveness”.

No Sikh can communicate or keep relationship with the one who has been declared ‘tankhaiya’ by Akal Takht. Such person’s ex-communication can end only when he or she completes atonement according to the sentence announced by the Akal Takht.

Badal joins former President Giani Zail Singh, former Punjab CM Surjit Singh Barnala, and former Union Minister Buta Singh, among other political leaders



‘I will soon present myself to seek forgiveness’

EXPLAINED

Sukhbir in tough spot

FOR Sukhbir Badal, already in the pits after his party’s dismal electoral performance — it has 3 MLAs in 117-member Assembly and only one of 13 LS MPs from Punjab — the ‘tankhaiya’ tag is a hard blow. That the Akal Takht order has come on a complaint by rebels — now expelled from party — also speaks about Badal’s loosening grip on panthic politics.

who were declared ‘tankhaiya’ by the Akal Takht. Most of the political leaders declared tankhaiya in the past ended up struggling in their political career.

Badal, however, is still the president of the Akali Dal, even though, he had on Thursday appointed senior leader Balwinder Singh Bhunder as party’s working president — a first in party’s over a century old history.

The Jathedar did not give details of the “mistakes” committed by Badal or his party. However, it was during Badal’s tenure as deputy CM that the incidents of theft of a ‘bir’ of the Guru Ganth Sahib and putting up of handwritten sacrilegious posters took place at Bargari in Faridkot in 2015. In subsequent protests, two persons were killed in police firing — the two incidents later had serious ramifications on Akali Dal, which was reduced to 17 seats in 2017 state polls and further to three in 2022. Earlier, Badal, without mentioning the mistakes, had sought

“unconditional forgiveness” and had also submitted his explanation after the Jathedar asked him to appear in person before the Akal Takht following allegations levelled by the party’s rebel leaders, who have asked him to step down.

On July 1, rebel SAD leaders — including former MPs Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa and Prem Singh Chadumajra, former Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee chief Bibi Jagir Kaur, and several other senior leaders — had appeared before the Akal Takht and apologised for the “four mistakes” committed when the party was in power in Punjab between 2007 and 2017.

The “mistakes” including the failure to punish those responsible for the 2015 sacrilege incidents, the subsequent police firing at Behbal Kalan on protesters, pardoning Dera Sacha Sauda chief in the 2007 blasphemy case, and the appointments of police officers, including Sumedh Singh Saini as Punjab Police chief in 2012.

Divorce plea: SC orders Omar, Payal to appear for mediation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

THE SUPREME Court on Friday asked former J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and his estranged wife Payal Abdullah, who are caught in a divorce battle, to appear before its mediation centre to see if the differences can be resolved.

A bench of Justices Sudhanshu Dhulia and Ahsanuddin Amanullah, which took up a petition filed by Omar, said it will now hear the matter after it receives the mediator’s report.

The National Conference vice president had approached the SC after the Delhi High Court upheld the Family Court order dismissing his prayer for divorce. He urged the court to exercise powers under Article 142 of the Constitution to grant them separation. Omar’s counsel, Senior Advocate Kapil Sibal, pointed out to the court that Omar and Payal had been living separately for almost 15 years now.

Appearing for Payal, Senior Advocate Shyam Divan said, “We think there can be an attempt at mediation.” The bench also agreed, even as it pointed out that there was a Constitution Bench judgement in Omar’s favour.

The bench was referring to a May 1, 2023, 5-judge Constitutional Bench ruling that said the SC can dissolve a marriage on the ground of “irretrievable breakdown”, by exercising its powers under Article 142(1) of Constitution even if one of the parties opposes it.

Sibal expressed doubts that mediation would resolve the situation but agreed to the court’s suggestion.

Omar and Payal married in September 1994 but have been living separately since 2009.

After top court rebuke, Revanth regrets Kavitha bail remarks

REENIVAS JANYALA
HYDERABAD, AUGUST 30

TELANGANA CHIEF Minister A Revanth Reddy on Friday “unconditionally” expressed regret after the Supreme Court took strong exception to his comments suggesting that a “deal between BRS and BJP” may have led to the bail given to BRS leader K Kavitha in the Delhi excise policy case.

Talking to social media, he posted: “I reiterate that I am a firm believer of the judicial process. I unconditionally express my regret for the statements reflected in the press reports. The remarks attributed to me in such reports have been taken out of context.”

SC Justices BR Gavai, PK Misra and K V Viswanathan on Thursday voiced its displeasure while hearing a plea seeking transfer of trial in a 2015 case against Reddy from Telangana to Bhopal. Justice Gavai told senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, who appeared for Reddy: “That sort of statement by a responsible CM, that might create an apprehension in somebody’s mind... do we pass our orders in consultation with a political party?”



New Cabinet Secretary T V Somanathan (right) with his predecessor Rajiv Gauba in New Delhi on Friday. ANI

Somanathan takes over as Cabinet Secretary from Rajiv Gauba

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

T V SOMANATHAN took over as Cabinet Secretary Friday following the superannuation of Rajiv Gauba, an official statement said.

Gauba had been Cabinet Secretary since 2019 and completed an unprecedented five-year term. Until recently the Finance Secretary, Somanathan was named Cabinet Secretary on August 10 with a two-year tenure.

A 1987-batch IAS officer of the Tamil Nadu cadre, Somanathan is a qualified chartered accountant, cost accountant and company secretary. He has held important assignments

at the Centre, including as Joint Secretary and later as Additional Secretary in the Prime Minister’s Office.

He also served as a Joint Secretary in the Union Ministry of Corporate Affairs and was deputed as Director for Corporate Affairs at the World Bank in Washington DC.

Somanathan was holding the charge of Finance Secretary and Secretary in the Department of Expenditure when he was named Cabinet Secretary.

In Tamil Nadu, he served in key positions such as Secretary to the Chief Minister.

Somanathan was additional chief secretary and commissioner of commercial taxes during the GST rollout.

UCC will be a measure to ensure justice for women: Vice President Dhankhar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

STRESSING ON the importance of a zero-tolerance approach towards crime against women, Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Friday said that implementing a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) would be a step forward to ensure justice for women.

Addressing students at Delhi University’s Bharati College, the V-Preiterated President Droupadi Murmu’s recent expression on violence against women and said “enough is enough”.



V-P Jagdeep Dhankhar in New Delhi on Friday. PTI

“When you make a girl or a

woman a victim, you are injuring our civilisation. You are injuring sublimity. You are behaving like a monster. You are exemplifying barbarity to an extreme, draconian level. Nothing should come in the way. I want everyone in the country to heed the same sage and timely caution by the President of India,” Dhankhar said.

Mentioning that the UCC was in the Directive Principles of State Policy, the V-P said: “...the UCC, which has been on the shelf for too long, is a small measure of justice for your segment. Look

the ticket to someone it had been fighting politically in the past,” Kashmiri Singh said. Slathia, earlier in the NC and a former minister, joined the BJP in 2019.

From Jammu East, the BJP has decided to field its state unit vice-president Yudhvir Sethi.

Though Sharma’s exit is not likely to affect the BJP’s electoral prospects, it appears to have taken the lid off the discontent prevailing within the party over ticket distribution, party sources said.

FULL REPORT
www.indianexpress.com



BJPs election in-charge for J&K polls G Kishan Reddy with former DY CM Nirmal Singh in Jammu, Friday. PTI

Jaishankar: Era of uninterrupted dialogue with Pakistan is over

‘India not passive... whether events positive or negative, we will react’

DIVYAA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

SAYING THAT the “era of uninterrupted dialogue” with Pakistan was over, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar Friday asserted that India was “not passive” and will react “whether events take a positive or negative direction”.

Speaking at the launch of a book — Strategic Conundrum: Reshaping India’s Foreign Policy, by former diplomat Rajiv Sikri — Jaishankar also said that for any country, neighbours are “always a conundrum” as are “major powers”. “In case of China, you have a double conundrum, because it’s a neighbour and a major power,” he said.

The Minister’s comments come just weeks ahead of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit being hosted by Pakistan in October. MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal told reporters Friday that Pakistan had formally invited Prime Minister Modi to the SCO Summit, but said there was “no further update” on India’s participation. “We will let you know the situation later,” Jaiswal said.

Ties between India and Pakistan took a sharp dip in 2019, after the abrogation of Article 370 granting special status to Jammu and Kashmir. Both sides have not posted High Commissioners in each other’s capitals ever since. New Delhi has insisted the onus was on Islamabad to create an environment for talks that is free of terror and hostility.

Jaishankar said at the book launch: “I think the era of uninterrupted dialogue with Pakistan is over. Actions have consequences, and in so far as Jammu & Kashmir is concerned, (Article) 370 is done. So, the issue today is what kind of relationship can we possibly contemplate with Pakistan.” “What I do want to say is that we are not passive, and whether events take a positive or negative direction, either way we will react,” he said.

On ties with other neighbouring countries, including China, he said: “Major powers



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar at a book launch in Delhi, Friday. PTI

will be a conundrum because they are major, because of the breadth of their interests. They will always have an agenda, which will overlap with us, but to differing degrees, also diverge. In the case of China, you have a double conundrum, because it’s a neighbour and a major power. So, the challenges with China fits this double definition.”

With Afghanistan, Jaishankar said there were “strong people-to-people relations”. “At a societal level, there is a certain goodwill for India. But as we look at Afghanistan, the basics of statecraft should not be forgotten. There are international relations at work here. So when we today review our Afghan policy, we are very clear-eyed about our interests. We are not confused by ‘inherited wisdom’ that is before us,” he said.

An intergovernmental organisation established in 2001, the SCO aims to promote cooperation and peace among its members as well as foster “a new democratic, fair and rational international political and economic order.” It has nine members: China, Russia, India, Pakistan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

Jaishankar also said there was a debate in the neighbourhood about two other groupings, SAARC and BIMSTEC. He described it as a contrast illustrating some challenges and opportunities of “regionalisation”.

“The real issue is that of overlapping identities versus forging new ones. So, everywhere there is history at play, but there is politics that often contests history and this in a way is a perennial challenge for India’s relationships with all its neighbours,” he said.

Indians stuck at Sao Paulo airport have been given food, water: MEA

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

INDIAN NATIONALS stuck at the São Paulo-Guarulhos International Airport, Brazil, are being provided food and water, the MEA said on Friday, adding that the Indian consulate is in touch with the Brazilian authorities and trying to collect more details.

Hundreds of migrants from India, Nepal and Vietnam have been stuck at the airport for weeks in alarming conditions — sleeping on the floor as they wait to enter Brazil, according to reports published last week.

Addressing mediapersons Friday, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said: “The Brazilian authorities have informed our Consulate in Sao Paulo on August 27, 2024, that several Indians are stranded at Guarulhos airport. Our Consulate is in touch with the Brazilian Foreign Office representative in Sao Paulo regarding this. They have also sought a meeting with the authorities concerned, and are trying to collect further information.”

Jaiswal, however, said that the situation about Indians being stuck at the airport has been

“exaggerated”.

It was reported last week that at least 666 Asian migrants — including “hundreds of Indian, Nepalese and Vietnamese citizens — have been stuck at the airport for weeks”, who are waiting to enter Brazil.

The migrants have been waiting to enter the country without visas, and are staying in the airport in poor conditions and sleeping on the floor, the media reports had stated, adding that they had also been staying in a restricted area with no food or water.

“The Indians are being taken care of — in terms of food and water,” Jaiswal said.



Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan. File

Pinarayi seeks EAM help to bring back Kerala men in Russian Army

MEA: Working for release of Indians

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

KERALA CM Pinarayi Vijayan Friday urged External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar to bring back men from Kerala who landed in a Russian Army camp after they were allegedly cheated by job racket.

Vijayan wrote a letter to the Union Minister after a Kerala youth who allegedly worked with a Russian military camp died from an airborne attack ten days back. The body of the victim, Sandeep, 36, a native Nayarangadi village at Trikkur panchayat in Thrissur district, is kept in Rostov-on-Don in Russia.

The CM said four others named Santhosh, Shannukhan, Siby Susamma Babu and Renin Thomas are still trapped in a military camp at Ukraine’s Luhansk “in dangerous situations”.

“They have gone to Russia through illegal recruitments and on reaching Russia, they were deployed in military camps. It has to be found out how many people are languishing in Russia after they got cheated in job fraud,” the letter said, also seeking the Union Minister’s intervention for speedy repatriation of Sandeep’s body.

In Delhi, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal told re-porters at a weekly briefing that as many as 15 Indian nationals have been released from the Russian Army so far and the embassy in Moscow continues to work with the authorities there to facilitate the release of the others.

Jaiswal’s comments came weeks after External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar told Parliament that Russian President Vladimir Putin had “personally” assured PM Narendra Modi, in Moscow last month, of the release of 69 Indians with the Russian Army. Giving details, Jaishankar had told the House that over the past nine months, 91 Indians had been recruited into Russian Army and eight had been killed so far. “14 out of 91 Indians have been discharged or... have come back with our assistance,” he had said.

‘Those from a community should reap benefits of that community’

AHEAD OF Swachh Bharat Mission completing 10 years on October 2, MoS for Housing and Urban Affairs TOKHAN SAHU speaks to DAMINI NATH about how the mission has led to societal transformation. Sahu also hit out at Congress over the demand for a caste census and defended the Modi government’s recent decisions, including withdrawal of the lateral entry advertisement. Excerpts:

In Chhattisgarh, your home state, the RSS has raised the issue of tribals who have converted availing quota benefits. What’s your stand on this?

The Hindu religion never talks about religious conversion. We are believers of Sanatan Sanskriti. We respect all religions. We have never told anyone to convert. But Congress has always pushed religious conversion in the interest of vote-bank politics. Why should

those who have converted get the benefit of that (ST) community? Those from a community should reap the benefits of that community, as per the Constitution framed by Dr B R Ambedkar, so that all sections get the benefits.

The Chhattisgarh BJP government recently handed over the Mahadev betting app case to the CBI. What was the reason?

From 2018-2023, the Bhupesh Baghel government carried out big scams — in liquor, coal, Public Service Commission, gobar... even our Mahadev was not spared. After the CM Vishnu Deo Sai-led government came to power, they are probing every wrongdoing. The case has been handed over to CBI so that the guilty are punished.

The Opposition, particularly the Congress, has raised the demand for a caste census.

The Congress was in power for

50-60 years and did not conduct a caste census. Their slogan during Indira Gandhi’s time was ‘Na jaat par, na paat par, mohar lagegi haath par’ (Not on caste, nor on origins, vote will be for hand or Congress). Now that they have faced rejection from all corners, they are talking of caste census. The Congress has divided the nation on the basis of religion once. Now, they are conspiring to divide India in the name of caste census. Those who raise the demand for a caste census should tell which caste they belong to. Don’t we have the right to ask?

A key programme of your ministry, Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban, will complete 10 years on October 2. What has the mission achieved and what more is the ministry planning to improve sanitation?

After Prime Minister Narendra Modi brought the Swachh Bharat



Mission in 2014, we have seen a big change in sanitation. Earlier, our mothers and sisters were forced to go outside to relieve themselves, they would have to

wait for nightfall. The biggest societal change has been brought by the mission. As a result, our country had become open defecation free, by the time we observed Mahatma Gandhi’s 150th birth anniversary (in 2019)... There are many cities that have become examples for others, like MP’s Indore and Chhattisgarh’s Ambikapur.

We still see garbage piling up in cities, clogged drains leading to waterlogging in the monsoon, including in Delhi. What is being done to address this?

Cleanliness is not a one-day activity. Cleanliness is the prime duty and right of all citizens. The Centre is aiding state governments, but they also have the duty to pay special attention to this.

When it comes to landfills, many states have done good work. There are many states like Delhi where garbage is piling up. The Arvind Kejriwal government

is not doing any work on this. If we say anything, they see politics. Delhi is India’s capital, the government should be accountable to make sure the landfills are removed. But this (Delhi) government is implicated in corruption and is not working for the common people. For Lutyens Delhi, which comes under the Centre, the work of desilting drains has been done, but the water flows to the drains under the Delhi government. Until they clean the drains, this problem will be there.

The Centre... (has) finished 772 stormwater drainage projects under AMRUT... Out of 2,300 legacy landfills, 400 LMT waste at 427 sites has been cleared.

Under PMAY-U 2.0, which was announced in Budget, the eligibility criteria for middle-income group families has been reduced from Rs 6 lakh-Rs 18

lakh to Rs 6 lakh-Rs 9 lakh. What was the reason for this?

For the first time, a PM has had the vision that the poor must have their own houses. We are a government that works to fulfil the dream of *antyodaya*. We have dedicated 4 crore homes to the public under PMAY. Under PMAY 2.0, we have a goal of 3 crore homes — 2 crore in rural and 1 crore in urban areas. The PMAY-U’s aim is to give houses to the urban poor. We have targeted the middle class and required changes have been made to the scheme.

We have seen decisions being taken back or put on hold, including lateral entry appointments. Why is the government making such U-turns?

The Modi government takes decisions with full strength... Whatever steps are necessary for the country, the PM and NDA government will take.

पंजाब नेशनल बैंक  **pnjab national bank**
(पंजाब बैंक) (the name you can BANK upon)

General Service Administration Department, Zonal Office,
SCO 31-42, Sector 17, Bank Square, Chandigarh-160017
Phone: 9872617313, 9015885137, e-mail: fgmochdgdag@pnb.co.in

"Notice for Pre-qualification / empanelment of Contractors in various Disciplines"

Applications are invited from reputed, experienced Contractors/ firms/ Companies for "Pregualification of contractors for works in different Categories i.e. Composite/ Civil/ Interior & Furnishing/ Water-Proofing/ Electrical" for carrying out works in our existing and new branches/offices in areas of Chandigarh and Haryana excluding Districts of Gurugram & Faridabad.

The firms / Contractors meeting the minimum qualifying criteria as mentioned in pre-qualification document, for the respective disciplines/ categories may download the application and apply.

For download of application and guidelines please visit our website <https://www.pnbindia.in/Tender.aspx>

Application duly filled along with the related testimonials / documents reflecting satisfactory performance/ experience in the line of business along with non-refundable Application Fee of Rs. 590/- (Rs. 500/- + GST) in form of Demand Draft drawn in favour of "Dy. General Manager, Punjab National Bank, Chandigarh", payable at Chandigarh, should reach in our office in sealed cover scribbled as APPLICATION FOR EMPANELMENT OF _____ (name of discipline/ Disciplines) on or before 17:00 Hours dated 03.10.2024. All pages of the documents and application should be duly signed and stamped by the authorized signatory of the Applicant.

Bank Reserves the right to accept / reject any or all offers submitted in response to this advertisement without assigning any reason whatsoever the case may be.

Dated: 31.08.2024 **Place: Chandigarh** **Dy. General Manager**

EXTENSION OF PUJA SPECIAL TRAINS 2024

In order to clear extra rush of passengers During forthcoming festival season, Railways have Decided to extend/continue the services of earlier notified special trains as per details given below:-

02391/02392 Patna Jn. - Anand Vihar Terminal - Patna Jn. Superfast Express Special Train (Weekly)				12 Trips
Train No. 02391		↓ STATIONS ↑	Train No. 02392	
ARR.	DEP.		ARR.	DEP.
----	22:20	Patna Jn.	17:20	----
15:00	-----	Anand Vihar Terminal	-----	23:20

DAYS OF RUN: 02391 from Patna Jn. on every Saturday from 05.10.2024 to 09.11.2024 & 02392 from Anand Vihar Terminal on every Sunday from 06.10.2024 to 10.11.2024.

STOPPAGE: Danapur, Ara, Buxar, Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Prayagraj Jn. and Kanpur Central Stations.

ACCOMMODATION: AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General.

03255/03256 Patna Jn. - Anand Vihar Terminal				26
Patna Jn. Superfast Express Special Train (Bi-Weekly)				Trips
Train No. 03255		↓ STATIONS ↑	Train No. 03256	
ARR.	DEP.		ARR.	DEP.
---	22:20	Patna Jn.	17:20	---
15:00	---	Anand Vihar Terminal	---	23:20

DAYS OF RUN: 03255 from **Patna Jn.** on every Sunday & Thursday from 03.10.2024 to 14.11.2024 & **03256** from **Anand Vihar Terminal** on every Monday & Friday from 04.10.2024 to 15.11.2024.

STOPPAGE: Danapur, Ara, Buxar, Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Prayagraj Jn. and Kanpur Central Stations.
ACCOMMODATION: AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, AC 3 Tier Economy, Sleeper & General.

03257/03258 Danapur - Anand Vihar Terminal - Danapur Superfast Express Special Train (Weekly)					12 Trips
Train No. 03257		↓ STATIONS ↑	Train No. 03258		
ARR.	DEP.		ARR.	DEP.	
----	07:30			20:45	----
			Danapur		
00:30	----		Anand Vihar Terminal	----	05:00

DAYS OF RUN: 03257 from **Danapur** on every Sunday from 06.10.2024 to 10.11.2024 & 03258 from **Anand Vihar Terminal** on every Monday from 07.10.2024 to 11.11.2024.

STOPPAGE: Ara, Buxar, Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Prayagraj Jn. and Kanpur Central Stations.
ACCOMMODATION: AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier, Sleeper & General.


For detailed information, please call RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or visit enquiry website www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in

<p>RailMadad Helpline No.</p> <p>139</p> <p>Please join us</p> <p>  </p>		<p>Visit RailMadad Website:</p> <p>www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in</p> <p>Download RailMadad app</p> <p>NORTHERN RAILWAY</p> <p>Always at your service</p> <p>Visit us at : www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in</p> <p>SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE</p>
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public at large are hereby informed through this public notice by the LR's of Late Smt Ritu Garg W/o Sh. Anil Sharan Garg having permanent residence at 7/18 Parwati Bagla Road, Kanpur, that she passed away on 28.02.2024 and was the sole and absolute owner of "Flat No. D-303, New Rajput CGHS, Plot No. 23, Sector 12, Dwarka, Delhi - 110078". That, the said flat is under a legal dispute and two civil suits i.e. CS/377/2020 "Sanjay Agarwal V. Ritu Garg & Ors" and CC/433/2021 "Ritu Garg v. Sanjay Agrawal" are pending in the District Court of Dwarka. As per Order dated 10.08.2021 passed by Hon'ble ADJ, Dwarka Court, there is a stay on this flat and no third-party interest can be created by any of the party to the suit. Therefore, it is information to all that beware of any fraudulent person claiming to be the owner of this flat and tries to sell, rent, lease or create third party interest in this flat falsely. Any such sale, purchase, lease, rent shall be void and subject to strict legal action against all such persons involved in such type of transaction.

Aditya Saran Garg through LRS.



Government of India
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Department of Health and Family Welfare
Nirman Bhawan, Maulana Azad Road, New Delhi-110011

NOTIFICATION

Applications are invited for the post of **Secretary, NMC and Members of the National Medical Commission (NMC), President and Members of the Autonomous Boards of the NMC.**

1. Applicant must be less than 65 years of age as on 01/08/2024.
2. The last date of receipt of application shall be 19/09/2024 no later than 4PM Indian Standard Time.
3. Detailed advertisement and the application format will be hosted on the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare website at www.mohfw.nic.in and may be downloaded.
4. Duly filled application in the prescribed proforma along with attested copy of all relevant certificates super-scribing on the envelope "Application for the post of Secretary and Members of the National Medical Commission (NMC), President and Members of the Autonomous Boards of the NMC" should be sent to the following address:

Secretary,
Department of Health and Family Welfare,
Nirman Bhawan, Maulana Azad Road,
New Delhi, 110011

5. Scanned copies of the applications along with all relevant documents must be sent on the Email address mpsection-mohfw@gov.in.
6. Both the hard copy and online applicants are mandatory for consideration of candidature. The scanned online copy will be considered as the final application and must be received by the due date and time at the designated email address.

CBC 17102/11/0011/2425

Government of India
Ministry of Ayush

Advertisement for filling up the post of Director, All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi

Applications are invited in duplicate from the eligible candidates for filling up the post of Director, All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi, an autonomous body under Ministry of Ayush, Government of India. Detailed notification is available on the website of the Ministry (www.ayush.gov.in) and All India Institute of Ayurveda, New Delhi (<http://aiia.gov.in>).

2. Application completed in all respect in the prescribed proforma may be submitted through proper channel to the undersigned in the Ministry of Ayush, AYUSH Bhawan, B-Block, GPO Complex, INA, New Delhi-110023 within 45 days from the date of publication of the advertisement for the post in the Employment News/Rozgar Samachar.

Sd/-

(Abdul Sadiq Khan)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

CBC 17201/11/0009/2425

Tel: 011 24651961

 NFL <small>A National Company</small>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">NATIONAL FERTILIZERS LIMITED</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">(A Govt. of India Undertaking)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">NANGAL UNIT, NAYA NANGAL - 140 126 (PUNJAB)</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Tel.: 01887-220568</p>			
<p>Tender No: PN/SPX/2023/378 Dated: 31.08.2024</p>				
<h2 style="margin: 0;">TENDER NOTICE</h2>				
<p>Online bids in two part bid system are invited on GeM portal for the following:</p>				
Sr. No.	Description	EMD	Estimate Cost	Last date & time of online submission of tenders and opening of technical bids
1.	Supply of 3.3 KV, 315KW, 400 FRAME, 993 RPM (6 POLE) SQUIRREL CAGE INDUCTION MOTOR (Qty = 1 No.)	Rs. 1.00 Lakh	Rs. 2.71 crore	As per GeM Bid Schedule
<p>For further details, visit our website: www.nationalfertilizers.com and https://gem.gov.in Vendors are advised to visit above websites regularly. Any further amendment/corrigendum to the above tender will be displayed only on aforesaid websites.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DGM (Mfrs)</p>				

**Executive Engineer, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana,
Maharashtra Rural Road Development Association, Jalgaon**

E-Tender Notice No. Jalgaon - 38/2024-2025 (2nd Call)

E-Tenders are invited Percentage Rate Tender for Upgradation and 10 Years Maintenance of **(Research and Development) (R&D) (White Topping)** Road Works in **Jalgaon District**, Under Mukhya Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana-2 (Batch-1) for Total 01 Package (10 Works, Total Estimated Cost Rs. 5411.94 Lakh)

Detailed E-Tender Notice will be available on website
<https://www.mahatenders.gov.in> from Date - 31/08/2024.

E-Tender Notice No.	Total No. of Works	Total Estimated Cost (Including Maintenance Cost)
38/2024-2025 (2nd Call)	10	Rs. 5411.94 Lakh

Sd/- **(Sanjay Rathod)**
 Executive Engineer,
 PMGSY, MRRDA, Jalgaon

<p align="center">No. A-12011/1/2024-MEO</p> <p align="center">Government of India</p> <p align="center">NITI Aayog</p> <p align="center">Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO)</p> <p>Applications are invited to fill up 2 posts of Upper Division Clerk (UDC) in DMEO, NITI Aayog. The posts pertain to the Administration of DMEO, NITI Aayog located in NITI Bhawan, New Delhi. The posts are to be filled on deputation basis for a period of three years; could be extended as per extant rule prescribed by DoPT on the subject. Applicant's age should not exceed 56 years as on the closing day for the submission of applications. Further details about the terms and conditions have been uploaded on DMEO's website https://dmeo.gov.in/work-with-us/recruitment and NITI Aayog's website https://niti.gov.in/career/vacancy-circular. Last date for the receipt of applications is 60 days from the date of publication in the Employment News.</p>	
<p>Upper Division Clerk (U.D.C.) 2 posts Pay Level – 4 (Rs. 25,500 – 81,100)</p>	<p>Officers from the Central Government or State Government or Union Territory Administrations (including their attached and subordinate offices):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Holding analogous posts on regular basis in the parent cadre or department; or Having eight years regular service as Lower Division Clerk in Pay Level – 2.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare



Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare invites application for the post of Director, National Seeds Research and Training Centre (NSRTC), Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh)-a subordinate office under the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare as under:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Number of posts	Pay Scale	Method
1.	Director	01	Group 'A' Gazetted, (Non-Ministerial) in Level-13 of Pay Matrix of Rs. 123100-215900	On Deputation/ Deputation (including short term contract)

Details of eligibility conditions can be seen at the website www.agriwelfare.gov.in or www.nsrtc.nic.in

Applications should reach the undersigned within 60 days from the date of publication of advertisement in the Employment News.

Sd/-
Under Secretary (Seeds)
Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
Room No. 432, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi - 110 001
Tel.: 2338 5784


Government of India
Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue
Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs
National Academy of Customs, Indirect Taxes
& Narcotics, Palasamudram


ADVERTISEMENT
NOTICE FOR CUSTOMS BROKERS EXAMINATION, 2025

August, 2024

1. Applications are invited from Indian citizens to appear in the online written examination for the issuance of licenses to act as a Customs Broker under the Customs Brokers Licensing Regulations (CBLR), 2018, as amended. A copy of the regulations is available at www.cbic.gov.in and www.nacin.gov.in.
2. All applications must be submitted only in online mode on the CBLMS Portal (<https://cblms.gov.in>). Applicants must register on the CBLMS portal if not already registered. After logging into the CBLMS portal, applicants are required to submit an “F Category Exam & License” application. Detailed user manuals for registration on CBLMS and filling out the “F Category Exam & License” application form are available on the CBLMS portal under “<https://cblms.gov.in> -> Knowledge Center -> Help Manual & FAQs” page with the titles “User Manual for F Category Exam and License Application (Part I)” and “**User Manual for F Category Exam and License Application (Part II)**”.
3. Applicants should carefully choose the Policy Section while filling out the application form. It is essential to ensure that the application form is filled out and submitted with complete and accurate information, as it can be submitted only once. **The complete “F Category Exam & License” application must be submitted from 22.10.2024 to 21.11. 2024 up to 2400 Hrs.**
4. The applicant must pay a fee of ₹500/- (Rupees five hundred only) either online in the “F Category Exam & License” application form or through manual challan at the Policy Section as referred to in Para 3 above and upload a copy of this manual challan in the “F Category Exam & License” application. No application will be accepted without successful payment of the fee.
5. Before applying, applicants should ensure the completeness of the application. Incomplete applications shall be summarily rejected.
6. If any information submitted by the applicant is found to be incorrect, the application shall be rejected, or the license (if issued) shall be canceled.
7. For any technical issues regarding registration or filling out the application form on the CBLMS portal, please contact the concerned Policy Section as mentioned in Para 3 above immediately. The contact details of all the Policy Sections are provided on the “<https://cblms.gov.in>-> CONTACT US” page on the CBLMS Portal.
8. The syllabus for the written examination will be as per regulation 6(7) of CBLR, 2018.
9. The names of applicants found eligible to appear in the examination will be displayed on the notice board and/or website of the respective Commissionerate by 08.12.2024.
10. Information regarding roll numbers, admit cards and examination venues will be made available on the websites of CBIC and NACIN under the icon/tab <GSP/CBLR Exam>. A link to download the admit card will also be provided therein. Admit cards shall also be sent by email to eligible applicants 12 days in advance of the examination date. The written examination shall be held in March 2025.
11. Candidates have the option to answer either in Hindi or in English.
12. Successful candidates will be called for an oral examination for which separate communication will be sent.
13. For any queries regarding eligibility and the application process, please refer to the regulations available on the websites (www.cbic.gov.in and www.nacin.gov.in) or contact the nearest Customs Commissionerate. A helpline will be operational at the e-mail address cblr-nacinpsm@gov.in from the start date of application submission till the date of the exam.

Principal Director General

CBC 15502/11/0002/2425

EXPRESS NETWORK

‘Recruitment of Maoists’: NIA searches nine locations

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

THE NIA on Friday searched multiple locations in Haryana, Delhi, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh, in connection with a Naxal recruitment case involving leaders of the banned CPI(Maoist) organisation.

“Nine locations, linked with various accused and suspects in the case, were searched. These included four locations in Punjab, two each in UP and Haryana and one in Delhi. All these states, along with Himachal Pradesh, constitute the National Regional Bureau (NRB), which the terrorist organisation is aggressively targeting in a bid to re-energise itself,” an NIA spokesperson said in a statement.

“Several digital devices (laptop, cellphones, pen drives, compact discs, hard drive, compact discs, memory cards), SIM cards, and pocket diaries were seized during the raids on the premises of suspects believed to be close aides of various accused in the instant case,” the spokesperson said.

“NIA probes revealed these suspects were receiving funds for propagation of CPI(Maoist) ideology from Prashant Bose, head of the erstwhile Eastern Regional Bureau (ERB), ERB, particularly in Jharkhand, had been funding the suspects, believed to be long-time associates and OGVs of the accused, to recruit cadres and raise the organisation in the northern states,” said the spokesperson.

Farmers protest after NIA raids woman leader’s house in Bathinda

RAAKHI JAGGA
LUDHIANA, AUGUST 30

THE NIA on Friday raided the house of woman farmer leader Sukhwinder Kaur in Rampura Phul area, Bathinda. A prominent farmer leader for over 40 years, Kaur serves as the state general secretary of Bhartiya Kisan Union (Krantikari). The raid began early Friday, and ended at around noon.

Kaur said she heard about the raid from her husband. “I’m at the Shambhu border but my husband said the NIA team had come with a search warrant in an FIR lodged in Lucknow in 2023 in which I’ve been named. I am clueless as I didn’t go to Lucknow last year... They searched the house, analysed all family members’ phones and took away my husband’s. They didn’t allow my daughter-in-law to go to the school where she teaches.”

Surjit Singh Phul, state president of BKU Krantikari, said after Kaur informed a few farmers in nearby areas, they staged a dhama outside her house when the NIA team was inside. “This dhama is in protest of raids by the NIA without any prior notice or written information,” Phul said. Alleging that the raid was a tactic to intimidate farmer leaders, he said, “NIA had raided the houses of many farmers even during the farm agitation. They come without any warrants and don’t even take the state police along. They are trying to intimidate us...”

FAREWELL ORGANISED BY SC BAR ASSOCIATION

CJI: Justice Kohli has shown you don’t have to forsake femininity to succeed

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

CHIEF JUSTICE of India D Y Chandrachud on Friday praised Supreme Court judge Justice Hima Kohli and called her a “voice of reason” and a “role model” for budding lawyers, especially women advocates.

Lauding her sensitivity and judicial decision-making, the CJI said Justice Kohli used her voice to highlight issues facing women in the profession. “Above all,” the CJI said, “Justice Hima Kohli has sent, I think, a very crucial message that to succeed as a woman, you do not have to forsake your femininity.”

“I think that is very crucial because every woman professionally brings a crucial element of her own ingrained compassion and sensitivity to succeed in our profession. You don’t have to behave like a man. You can con-

‘Sign MoU for PM SHRI’: Pradhan responds to Stalin letter for Samagra Shiksha funds

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

AFTER TAMIL Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi earlier this week asking the Centre to expedite the release of its share to the state under the Samagra Shiksha scheme, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan responded Friday urging him to sign a MoU with the Centre for the PM SHRI scheme and stating that the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 “fully supports the idea of teaching Tamil in the schools of Tamil Nadu.”

On the Centre-State tussle over the implementation of the PM SHRI scheme, which aims to set up “exemplar schools” that will showcase aspects of the NEP,



Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan; TN CM M K Stalin. File



Pradhan wrote that Tamil Nadu had given an undertaking in March indicating the state’s willingness to sign the PM SHRI MoU for the 2024-25 academic year, and a draft MoU was sent by the Ministry of Education to the state.

“However, I was surprised to see that the state responded with a modified MoU... wherein (a) key paragraph referring to the implementation of NEP 2020 in entirety has been dropped,” he wrote.

The Stalin government has been opposed to the implementation of NEP. The earlier AIADMK government in the state was against NEP’s three-language policy. DMK leaders have opposed the idea of a common education policy for all states. Stalin had said in 2020 that NEP gives more priority to Sanskrit than Tamil and other languages. The state follows a two-language policy.

On the issue of language,

Pradhan wrote: “NEP 2020 emphasises that wherever possible, the medium of instruction until at least grade 5 but preferably till grade 8 and beyond will be the home language/ mother tongue/ local language/ regional language. Therefore, NEP 2020 fully supports the idea of teaching Tamil in the schools of Tamil Nadu...”

In his letter, Stalin had written the Centre is “attempting to link the complete implementation of NEP in PM SHRI schools as a pre-requisite for sanctioning funds under the ongoing SS (Samagra Shiksha) scheme,” and that funds have been released to states that have entered into MoUs with the Centre for PM SHRI.

For the Samagra Shiksha scheme, the release of the Centre’s first installment of Rs 573 crore for 2024-25 to Tamil

Nadu is “overdue”, according to Stalin’s letter. The Centre is yet to release Rs. 249 crore due for the previous year, he had said.

On this, Pradhan wrote that in 2023-24, the Centre released all four installments under Samagra Shiksha to Tamil Nadu, amounting to Rs 1,876.15 crore. Three other Opposition-ruled states — West Bengal, Punjab and Delhi — had also not signed the MoU for PM SHRI and the Centre had not released funds to these states for the Samagra Shiksha scheme. However, Punjab has recently relented and agreed to implement the PM SHRI scheme.

One of the provisions of the MoU that states are to enter into with the Centre for PM SHRI is that the state will implement all provisions of the NEP 2020 “in entirety within the entire State/UT.”

Student sexually harassed in hostel of NIT Trichy, protests break out as warden ‘blames clothing’

ARUN JANARDHANAN
CHENNAI, AUGUST 30

PROTESTS BROKE out at the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Trichy, on Thursday night after a student was allegedly sexually harassed by a contracted technician in her hostel room.

The accused, G Kathiresan, was hired to install WiFi in the hostel. He is accused of indecently exposing himself to the student while she was alone in her room.

He was arrested on Thursday evening, but the protesters were angered by the hostel authorities’ handling of the situation, with the warden allegedly having initially blamed the student for the clothes she was wearing. A senior police officer familiar with the case said the student had immediately reported the incident to the hostel warden.

“However, instead of receiving support, she was met with insensitive remarks. The warden allegedly criticised the student’s outfit, blaming her for the incident, rather than taking swift action against the perpetrator.

Angered by this response, the student took to social media to share her ordeal, sparking outrage. By evening, over 500 students had gathered for a sit-in protest on NIT Trichy campus, demanding accountability from hostel authorities and the institute’s management,” the officer said.

Students condemned the warden’s “insensitivity” and criticised the administration for its failure to ensure their safety. The protest continued overnight, with students refusing to disperse until concrete actions were taken. The situation escalated when the warden allegedly threatened to impose stricter curfew timings.

In the early hours of Friday, Superintendent of Police V Varun Kumar intervened and assured the students that the institute’s management would be directed to address the security lapses in the women’s hostel. He also informed protesters that the culprit had been arrested and lodged in jail. The warden, whose remarks had triggered much of the students’ anger, apologised publicly before the students finally called off the protest.

‘Spy cam’ found in Andhra college sets off protests, police inquiry

Hyderabad: A spy camera allegedly found in the washroom of a woman’s hostel at the Seshadri Rao Gudlavalluru College of Engineering in Andhra Pradesh’s Krishna has sparked protests, prompting a police investigation.

Krishna district SP Gangadhar Rao refused to confirm the existence of the spy camera at the Gudlavalluru college. But he said that a case was registered and probes were underway. “Whether there was any camera hidden in the washroom of the women’s hostel will be determined after the investigation is over,” he said.

This came after stir erupted among women students of the engineering college over the spy camera allegedly found in a washroom. Protesters have alleged that camera footage have been circulated on social media groups, although this is yet to be confirmed.

According to police sources, a final-year male student is being questioned. They said a team of investigators were at the men’s hostels to search via laptops and cellphones for any camera footage. CM N Chandrababu Naidu has asked Mines Minister Kollu Ravindra, Machilipatnam MLA, to visit the hostel and assure all of a thorough inquiry. **ENS**

Dalit woman, grandson ‘assaulted at police station’ in MP; 6 cops suspended

JAYPRAKASH S NAIDU
RAIPUR, AUGUST 30

A POLICE inspector and five constables of the Government Railway Police (GRP) in Madhya Pradesh’s Katni city have been suspended after a video allegedly showing them assaulting a 55-year-old Dalit woman and her 15-year-old grandson in police custody surfaced online.

In a complaint on Tuesday, Kusum Vanshkar said that on October 29 last year, she and her grandson were taken to Katni GRP police station in connection with an inquiry into her older son Deepak (35), a suspect in a theft

case. “On the pretext of questioning, inspector Aruna Vahane shut the door of her room and started pulling and dragging me by my hair and assaulted me with a wooden stick, kicked me and assaulted me between 6 pm and 7 pm,” she alleged in the complaint.

The complaint also alleged that four police constables “caught hold of my grandson and hit him on his legs several times with a wooden stick”. The incident had purportedly been captured on a CCTV camera inside the police station, and the clip went viral on social media recently. The video prompted Madhya Pradesh CM Mohan Yadav to issue a statement on Thursday evening, promising

action against the cops involved.

“An old video of assault by officers/employees of GRP Katni police station is going viral. When it came to my notice, this morning, DIG Rail was directed to reach the spot. Preliminary probe shows that orders have been given to suspend the then police station in-charge GRP Katni, along with a head constable and four constables with immediate effect...,” Yadav wrote in a post on X.

Later in the day, the six police personnel — inspector Aruna Vahane, head constable Ajay Shrivastav, and constables Shoaib Abbasi, Salman Khan, Omkar Sirsam and Varsha Dubey — were suspended.



Police use water cannon to disperse Mahila Congress workers protesting against actors Mukesh and Siddique, accused of sexual assault, in Kochi on Friday. PTI

CPI contradicts leader Annie Raja’s stand on CPI(M)’s Mukesh: ‘State leadership will comment’

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, AUGUST 30

A DAY after Communist Party of India’s leader Annie Raja demanded the resignation of actor and CPI(M) legislator M Mukesh over rape charges, her party’s Kerala unit on Friday openly contradicted her remarks, calling it a “state leadership issue”.

After a state party leadership meeting, CPI state secretary Binoy Viswam told mediapersons that Raja was a “national leader” and that “there was a state leadership” to comment on the issue. “The Left is committed to uphold its perspective. No CPI(M)-CPI dispute on this... Annie Raja is a national secretariat member of the party. State leadership will comment on an issue in Kerala and everybody is familiar with that basic norm. There is no issue of one approach here and another there,” he said.

The statement came after Raja sought Mukesh’s resignation on the ground that he “had no moral or legal ground to continue as an MLA”. This call came after police registered a rape case against the actor-politician based on a complaint from an actor. Although CPI in Kerala openly aired the party

view on the Mukesh issue, party sources said the CPI leadership has expressed its resentment over Mukesh continuing as a legislator.

“Viswam had communicated the party stand to the CM. That on moral ground, he should quit. But the party will not demand or compel the CPI(M) to seek his resignation,” one source said.

This isn’t the first time the state leadership has held a contradictory stand to Raja’s. In 2021, when she had alleged that Sangh Parivar elements had infiltrated into the state police force, then CPI state leadership denounced her stand.

On its part, the CPI(M) state leadership rallied behind Mukesh, arguing that two Congress legislators had not stepped down even after they were charge sheeted in rape cases. However, the party state panel, which will meet on Saturday, may take a fresh call on the issue amid the growing chorus for the legislator’s resignation.

Mukesh is gearing up for a legal battle after a court stayed his arrest until September 2. Kochi Police on Friday recorded the statement of the complainant. The same day, actor Jayasurya, was also booked in a second rape case after a junior artiste accused him of unwanted sexual advances while shooting a 2013 movie.

WAQF (AMENDMENT) BILL Stakeholders appear before joint panel, Opp walks out briefly

LS Sect invites public suggestions on Bill

ASAD REHMAN
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

THE SECOND meeting of the Joint Committee of Parliament on the Waqf (Amendment) Bill lasted more than eight hours Friday, and it also saw Opposition members staging a walkout who later claimed that “the ruling side MPs were not ready to listen” to them.

It is learnt that all the Opposition members walked out of the meeting around 4.30 pm when a BJP member was speaking in favour of one of the proposed provisions in the Bill. Later, the Opposition said one among them was not allowed to intervene and they walked out in protest. But they returned minutes later and the meeting resumed.

Parliamentary committee proceedings are privileged and details of exchanges between members during meetings are not made public.

The committee had on Friday invited Muslim organisations and Waqf Board representatives who have been opposing any changes to Waqf Act of 1995.

The Waqf (Amendment) Bill was sent to a Joint Committee of Parliament following strong objections from the Opposition and the BJP-led government’s own allies favouring a detailed discussion on the proposed changes.

BJP MP Jagdambika Pal, who heads the Joint Committee, said it heard oral evidence from stakeholders. In his post on X, Pal said the stakeholders included All India Sunni Jamiatul Ulama Mumbai, Indian Muslims for Civil Rights (IMCR), Delhi and Uttar Pradesh Sunni Central Waqf Boards and Rajasthan Muslim Waqf.

BJP allies JD (U), IJP (Ram Vilas) and TDP have so far taken a “neutral” stand and at least two

of these parties want concerns expressed by Muslim organisations to be addressed.

A clause in the proposed Bill which gives the District Collector the power to adjudicate in disputes related to Waqf properties has been opposed by the Opposition on the grounds that the District Collector is a representative of the government and is appointed by it and will never rule against the government in which it is a party.

The issue of the proposed Bill cancelling the provision in the existing Act on “Waqf by user” has also had the Opposition questioning how Waqf deeds for centuries and decades old Waqf properties will be produced now.

According to the Opposition, the proposed Bill, by omitting the provisions relating to “Waqf by user,” makes a Waqf property suspect in the absence of a valid Waqfnama.

Meanwhile, the Lok Sabha Secretariat on Friday also invited suggestions on the Bill. It said “memoranda containing views/suggestions from the public in general and NGOs/experts/stakeholders and institutions in particular” are invited.

The Secretariat said those “desirous of submitting written memoranda/suggestions to the Committee may send two copies thereof either in English or in Hindi to the Lok Sabha Joint Secretary (JM).”

“The memoranda/suggestions submitted to the Committee would form part of the records of the Committee and would be treated as ‘confidential’ and enjoy privileges of the Committee,” the Secretariat said in a statement.

“Those who are desirous of appearing before the Committee, besides submitting memoranda, are requested to specifically indicate so. However, the Committee’s decision in this regard shall be final,” it stated.

Cong appoints secretaries, joint secys in key reshuffle

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

IN THE first major organisational reshuffle after the Lok Sabha polls, the Congress on Friday appointed new secretaries and joint secretaries and some state office-bearers — to be associated with the party’s general secretaries and in-charges in the states.

Pranav Jha and Gaurav Pandhi, coordinators in the office of the Congress president, were made AICC secretaries. While Vineet Punia, an AICC secretary in the party’s communication department, was given similar responsi-

bility, Ruchira Chaturvedi was appointed secretary in the department along with him. Two former MLAs of Rajasthan, Danish Abrar and Divya Maderna, were appointed secretaries for Delhi and J&K and Ladakh, respectively.

Former president of All India Mahila Congress Netta D’Souza, former NSUI president Neeraj Kundan, and Naveen Sharma will work as AICC secretaries along with Venugopal. Dheeraj Gurjar, Pradeep Narwal, Rajesh Tiwari, Taqir Alam, Nilanshi Chaturvedi and Satyanarayan Patel will be AICC secretaries in UP. Subhashini Yadav, daughter of late Sharad Yadav, was appointed a secretary.

Vigilance DG Alok Raj is new DGP of Bihar

Patna: Alok Raj, 1989-batch Bihar cadre IPS officer, on Friday took over as Bihar’s Director General of Police (DGP). Raj replaced R S Bhatti, who was appointed Wednesday as director general of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF). In December 2022, Bhatti had been made Bihar DGP even though he was a year junior to Raj.

Raj is currently also DG, Vigilance Investigation Bureau, and will continue to hold the post along with his new role as DGP. He is set for retirement on December 31, 2025. He has previously served as superintendent of police of Sitamarhi and Begusarai, and subsequently as CRPF DIG and IG.

The 2025 Assembly poll in Bihar will be held during Raj’s tenure as police chief. On Friday, after assuming charge, Raj said: “I thank the state government for bestowing the honour on me. My priority is to keep working towards the state’s zero-tolerance policy on crime...” **ENS**

Psychological aid, ‘back to home’ kits: How Wayanad survivors are picking up pieces

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, AUGUST 30

IT WAS in the early hours of July 30 that a portion of the hill behind Mundakkai in Wayanad came down in landslides, leaving villages buried, 231 people dead and 78 still missing. The survivors were left mourning loved ones and the loss of almost all their belongings.

A month later, these survivors — 795 affected families comprising 2,569 people — who had initially been staying in relief camps in Meppadi panchayat, are now living in government-sponsored rented houses and unused government residential properties, where they have been temporarily relocated. These facilities are in affected parts of the Meppadi area and nearby panchayats in the district. Some survivors have also been living with their relatives.

They are expected to be re-

located permanently to a proposed township that the government plans to build for this purpose.

As these families have lost all of their belongings, the district administration has sent many of them “back to home kits”, including furniture, kitchen items, personal hygiene items, and food items. These items were collected with the help of philanthropists and organisations that chipped in over the last month. So far, 583 such kits have been distributed.

Affected families are also given aid of Rs 18,000 each per month for two persons. Apart from this, Rs 6,000 for monthly rent, announced by the government, will be paid. The trauma of the disaster and the losses have also taken a heavy psychological toll on the survivors, and the government has been providing counselling and other facilities to address this.

Around 350 social workers and psychiatrists are deployed to help the survivors. Sources said 2,000 sessions of special coun-



A damaged house in Kerala’s Chooralmala village, Friday. PTI

selling have been held so far. Moreover, 21 pharmacotherapy sessions and 400 group counselling sessions have been held.

At an all-party meeting on rehabilitation on Thursday, CM Pinarayi Vijayan said in the first phase, priority will be given to those who lost their houses. In the second phase, families to be relocated from vulnerable areas in affected villages will be considered.

The government is planning to give them single-storeyed, 1,000-

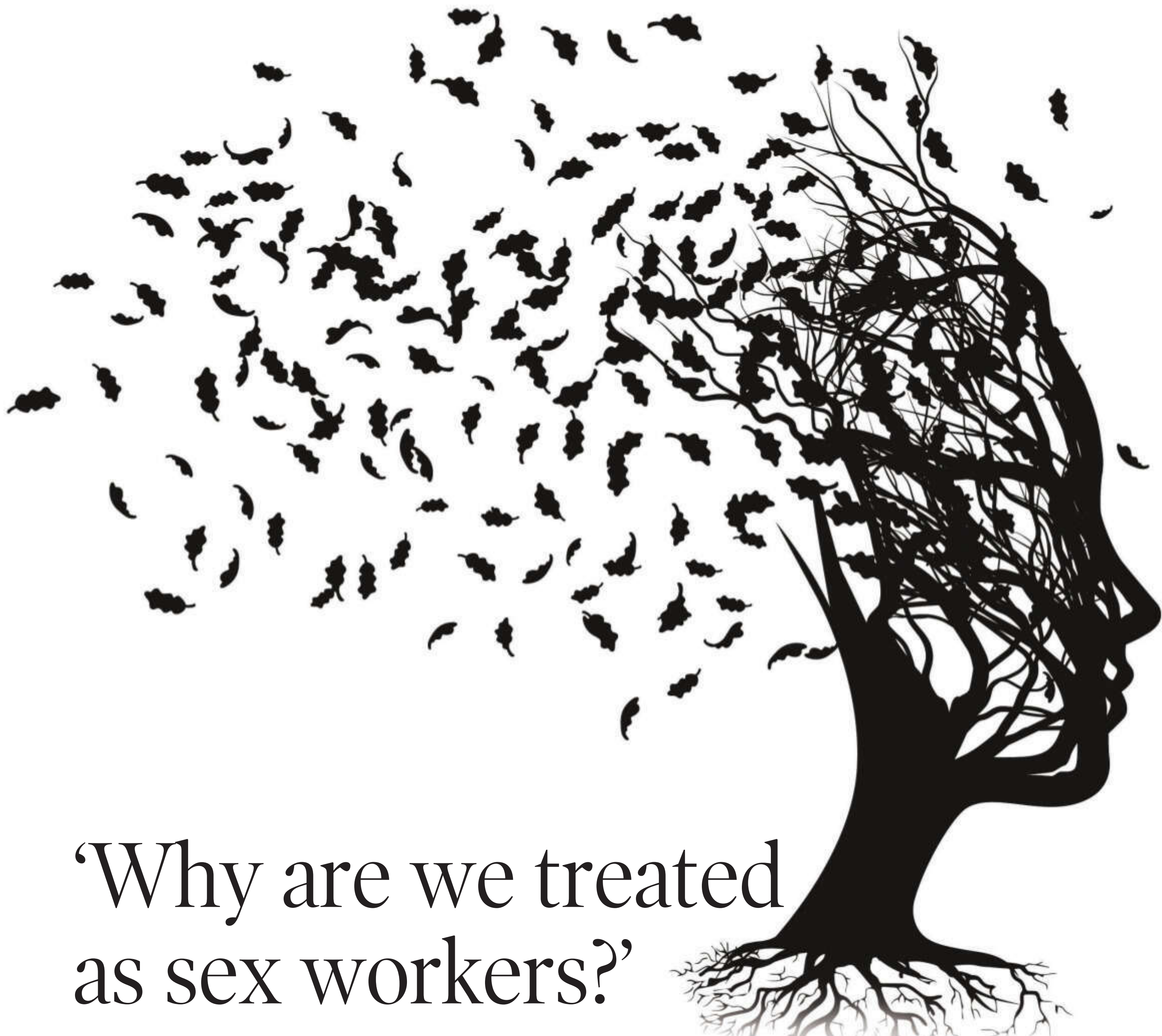
square-foot houses. With over 340 hectares of agricultural land having been washed away in the landslide, the rehabilitation package will include farming facilities.

The landslides that took place early July 30 had washed away or buried people, houses and belongings by daybreak. As many as 17 families were wiped out, 183 houses in Chooralmala and Mundakkai villages disappeared without even a single stone left on them, 400 houses were fully or partially destroyed, and 240 houses rendered uninhabitable.

For a month, Mundakkai and Chooralmala — the hardest-hit villages — remained ghost towns.

Schools in Meppadi panchayat, under which these villages come, were hosting relief camps in the early days. The schools reopened on Tuesday. A government school, Mundakkai, and another in Chooralmala’s Vellamala are set to resume operations on Monday. The schools lost 44 of their students in the landslide.

BIG PICTURE



HEMA PANEL SAYS

‘Treated worse than slaves’: The lives of junior artistes on film sets

Long hours, poor pay, rampant exploitation: Report on the problems faced by the actors

NIKHILA HENRY

THEY ARE the ‘extras’ – the many nameless, faceless junior artistes who populate film sets, the ones who don’t make it to the end credits. They don’t make it to the two main film unions in Kerala either – the Association of Malayalam Movie Artistes (AMMA) that represents the actors or the Film Employees Federation of Kerala (FEFKA), a body that represents the technical crew.

“We are the orphans of the Malayalam film industry... We are daily wagers... and we are never treated as actors,” says a junior artiste.

“There cannot be any cinema without junior artistes,” the Justice K Hema Committee says in its report while dedicating a section to examine the plight of junior artistes.

Another junior artiste says, “On my first day on the sets, a production controller told me that I will have to do late-night shoots. I was ready for that and was promised a decent pay. At the end of the shoot, I was told that my acting was bad and that I don’t deserve the money I was promised.” She was finally paid half of what she was promised.

According to the committee report, film sets usually have contractors who hire junior artistes, who are often not paid on time. The committee talks of how they are made to “beg” producers or coordinators for their payment to be made after days of work. While the artistes are paid anywhere between Rs 1,800 and Rs 5,000, this amount never reaches the artistes, the committee notes.

The report also states that junior artistes are often asked sexual favours, sometimes even in exchange for food that is provided on the sets. A junior artiste who suffered burn injuries and another who suffered a leg fracture had to shell out their own money to get their medical treatments done, the report says. The artistes are often not provided accommodation and transport – “there were occasions where they had to sleep in railway stations for their safety”.

According to the committee, the junior artistes are not given access to toilets on the sets even though they often have to work for over 19 hours.

One of the committee members wrote, “I was surprised to hear from a junior artiste that she was not allowed to go to toilet by the production unit since it takes 10 minutes by walk to reach a convenient place for going to the toilet. Many of them have landed up in hospitals on some occasions, it is stated... There is also an understanding that such toilets (in the caravans of the main actors) cannot be used and many junior artists, co-artists etc., do not dare to make request to the main artist.”

Moreover, they are denied basic facilities such as water and food on most sets. The committee report reads, “Junior artistes who are made to stand in the hot sun are not even given anything to eat or drink on most sets.” The report adds, “Even if 100 persons are needed (for a shoot), thousands of junior artistes are made to come to the set. Only a few will be chosen and those few are given food coupons. But the others will be asked to remain on set and not allowed to go back.”

The committee notes that many of the junior artistes who remain on the sets for long hours “won’t even be allowed to sit or take rest when there’s no shooting”. The report, which has depositions by the actors, talks of an instance when a junior artiste, who reported sick to work, sat on a chair, but was asked to stand up and not return to the sets.

“It was shocking to know that junior artistes are treated worse than slaves on certain sets,” the committee says.

Junior artistes also face sexual exploitation on film sets, the committee states. “Junior artistes are told they will be given a chance in cinema if they comply by the demands for sex. They are told they will have to adjust and compromise if they want to be in the film industry,” the report says.

‘Why are we treated as sex workers?’

A make-up artist who woke up at night to see a stranger in her room; an assistant director who says it is “common to be approached for sexual favours”; a woman director who was once mistaken for a hairstylist on the sets. With the Hema Committee report setting off a storm in the Kerala film industry, NIKHILA HENRY travels to Kochi to find a cloak of silence slowly lifting

SITTING IN a café in Kochi, her tea untouched, Sivapriya Manisha opens up about what she went through. It’s not easy, and she is angry for the most part of the conversation. “Why are we treated as sex workers in this industry?”

A make-up artist in Malayalam films for 15 years, Manisha, who was trained in prosthetic make-up by National Award winning make-up artist Pattanam Rasheed, has temporarily changed gears and now does bridal make-up for a living. “I have very few film assignments now. With bridal make-up, at least no one is going to ask me to sleep with them,” she scoffs.

With the release of the Justice K Hema Committee report, which looked into the issues faced by women in Malayalam cinema, setting off a storm of accusations, cases of rape and criminal intimidation have been filed against some of the big names in the industry, among them actor Siddique, who had

to step down as general secretary of the Association of Malayalam Movie Artistes (AMMA), CPI(M) MLA and actor Mukesh, and director Ranjith.

Much of the focus so far has been on the all-powerful AMMA that represents the actors – on August 27, the 17-member executive committee of the association stepped down from the posts.

But beyond the big names and their bigger reputations, there are countless stories of sexual misconduct in the industry. With the cloak

of silence that had enveloped the industry for far too long slowly lifting, voices such as Manisha’s have finally found an expression.

Horror, recounted

Manisha, who made it to the industry from a small village in Kottarakkara in Kollam district, says the first instance of harassment she faced was in 2014, five years after she started off as a hairstylist. A senior make-up man had told her to come to his room “after taking a shower”. “I went to his room with a male make-up assistant. The man was furious that I brought someone with me and started harassing me at work from the very next day,” she says, adding that the harassment included denying her transport and accusing her of doing sub-par work.

“We were once shooting at a remote location and it was 11.30 pm by the time I finished work. I was stranded and had no vehicle to go back. I started crying and finally, a production controller helped me get a vehicle,” she says.

Manisha says she confronted the make-up artist over a phone call, making sure she recorded the call. “I asked him what he wanted from me and he openly said he

wanted sex,” she alleges. She says that while she approached FEFKA (the Film Employees Federation of Kerala, a body that represents the technical crew – directors, assistant directors, cinematographers, costume designers, and make-up artists, among others) to raise issues of sexual harassment in the industry, her grievances were never addressed. Since then, Manisha says, she has been struggling to get work in the film industry.

When asked about the allegations, FEFKA general secretary B Unnikrishnan told *The Indian Express* that “no complaint which has come to FEFKA has gone unanswered”. No one has lost work because of raising complaints, he added.

FEFKA is a federation with 21 affiliated unions and 63 members who make up its general council. “In most cases, unions affiliated to FEFKA deal with the complaints internally. But now we are going to insist that all complaints of sexual harassment should be referred to FEFKA for adjudication. We think police complaints should be lodged whenever such cases come about,” Unnikrishnan insisted.

In its report, the Hema committee notes that until recently, women make-up artists were discriminated against and did not get work identity cards from their union.

Manisha is among 40 hairstylists and women make-up artists who are card holders of the FEFKA-affiliated All Kerala Cine Make-up Artists and Hair Stylists Union. But there are many more women who work as make-up artists but are not recognised as such by the union.

Men continue to dominate the field – there are around 150-odd male make-up artists recognised by FEFKA. While the chief make-up artists – almost always men – get Rs 5,000 a day, hairstylists and junior make-up artists are paid a paltry sum of Rs 1,800 a day.

“Till last year, only the men could be ‘make-up’ artists; women who worked as assistants to make-up men were called hairstylists. It’s after decades of fighting for our rights that we began to be recognised for our work,” says Manisha.

In May this year, after 15 years in the industry, Manisha got her work ID from the union recognising her as a make-up artist. But it may have come too late. “I don’t think I can remain in this industry for much longer,” she says.

In another part of Kochi, in Palarivattom, another make-up artist agrees to speak, but on the strict condition that she not be named.

She says she joined the industry in the 1990s and that while the unsteady timings and long hours meant that work was always tough, things took a turn for the worse after she resisted sexual advances from male members of the team.

The sole caregiver for her elderly mother and an ailing sister, she says life has been tough. “I now barely get work once a year.”

She says that while they usually put up with minor indiscretions and instances of sexism on the sets, her worst nightmare came true one night in a hotel room where the crew were staying. “I woke up at night and saw a man wearing a black lungi sitting by the side of my bed. I ran out of the room screaming. I was told I was imagining things but I lodged a police complaint,” she says.

She adds it is common for male members of the crew to knock on their doors at night to demand sexual favours. “It has happened a couple of times, but I have never opened the door because of fear. Once I looked through the peephole and found the producer at the door,” she says.

Another make-up artist spoke of how she has been without work since September 2023, when she accused a senior make-up artist of sexual assault. “I was sitting in the room designated for hairstylists when this senior make-up man walked in, bolted the door from inside and started talking in an inappropriate manner. When I asked him to leave, he tried to grab me. I somehow escaped,” she wrote in a complaint to the union.

She says that following her complaint, the accused, an office bearer of the union, was asked to stay away from work for a year. “While he came back to work after a year, I have been sitting at home without any job opportunities,” she wrote in her complaint. “I joined the film industry after a lot of struggles, but now it is over for me,” she says.

Beyond the stories of harassment, women working on the sets – from hairstylists to assistant directors and directors – talk of the numerous instances of everyday belittlement that they endure.

A woman director told *The Indian Express* that she was once mistaken for a “hairstylist” on a film set. “People just couldn’t believe that a woman could be a director,” she says. And once her film came out, she says, many expressed incredulity that she could have shot “all of it”.

“It was unbelievable that a woman could shoot certain sequences without the help of her male counterparts,” she says.

A woman assistant director, who has been working in the industry for two years, says it is common for those in the fraternity to “ask for sexual favours” from them.

“You work as an assistant director thinking that some day you will get to make a film of your own. They crush this dream by asking for sexual favours,” she says.

Another assistant director said even actors dictate terms to them. “There is no protection or mechanism by which we can stop

people from trampling all over us,” she says.

As the Hema Committee report noted, exploitation is rampant given the power dynamics in the industry. The harassment, the report says, takes multiple forms – from seeking sexual favours to handing out bans to those who don’t toe the line.

Director Vinayan, a top filmmaker, who faced an “unofficial” ban for 12 years, says both men and women technicians face harassment because the industry “still works like an unorganised sector” without any controls.

Vinayan says he first faced trouble when he had a tiff with AMMA – while he wanted to implement work contracts between actors and producers, AMMA was not in favour of the same. “I still remember how some members of AMMA, including senior actors, met in a hotel room and ruled that I should be kept away from the industry. That decree holds till today,” Vinayan alleges.

Another director who is part of FEFKA said the association is facing a lot of internal strife ever since the Hema committee report came out. “A large section of FEFKA is close to AMMA. We are affected by the strife in AMMA,” the director said. FEFKA has, meanwhile, called for a meeting in Kochi on August 31 to address issues of sexual harassment raised by its women members.

What next?

In a residential area on the outskirts of Kochi, news of the Hema Committee report blares out from television sets inside homes. “It’s all that people are talking about now,” says a make-up artist.

While the report has helped those in the industry square up to cinema’s darkest secrets, many feel the present situation will eventually amount to little unless the industry is overhauled completely.

“From AMMA to FEFKA and smaller unions, everyone needs to rethink how women – and some men – are treated in the industry. This should be a moment of reckoning and there should be deep changes,” says Manisha.

Senior film editor Bina Paul had earlier told *The Indian Express* that “systemic changes” have to be brought in the film industry to make it a gender-friendly space safe for both men and women.

Screenwriter Deedi Damodaran says, “Cinema has to be treated as any other workplace. There should be clear work contracts and clear terms of employment in cinema which will make harassment illegal. What is illegal in any workplace should be illegal in cinema too.”

Women in the film industry talk of the instances of everyday belittlement. A woman director said she was once mistaken for a “hairstylist” on the sets of her film



TOPOF THE WORLD



A flight takes off after a failed bid to land in Fukuoka. Reuters

Flood alert after typhoon wreaks havoc in Japan

Fukuoka: Typhoon Shanshan soaked large swathes of Japan with torrential rain on Friday, prompting warnings for flooding and landslides hundreds of miles from the storm's centre, halting travel services and shutting production at major factories. At least four people have been killed and 99 injured in storm-related incidents in recent days, according to the disaster management agency. In the southwestern region of Kyushu, where the storm that authorities say could be one of the strongest ever to hit the region made landfall on Thursday, residents were surveying the damage after a night of heavy rain and severe winds. **AP**

UNITED KINGDOM

Indian-origin woman admits killing daughter

London: A 33-year-old Indian-origin woman on Friday admitted to the killing of her 10-year-old daughter, who was found dead at their home in a town in the West Midlands region of England earlier this year. Jaskirat Kaur, also known as Jasmine Kang, had been charged with the murder of Shay Kang on March 4 when West Midlands Police said the girl had been found with injuries at an address in the town of Rowley Regis and pronounced dead at the scene. Kaur has now told Wolverhampton Crown Court in a short hearing via video link from her prison that she pleads guilty to her daughter's manslaughter on the basis of diminished responsibility. Judge Michael Chambers has set her sentencing for October 25. **PTI**

SRI LANKA

EU monitors deployed for presidential polls

Colombo: The European Union Friday said its election monitors for the September 21 presidential polls have been deployed in all nine provinces. The European Union Election Observation Mission was launched on August 14 with the arrival of 10 experts while on Thursday, 26 observers were deployed to nine provinces. **PTI**

FIRST MAJOR INTERVIEW SINCE BECOMING DEMOCRATIC NOMINEE

Harris pledges tougher approach on migration, backs weapons for Israel

Trump's agenda divides country, diminishes the character of its people, she says

PTI & REUTERS

WASHINGTON, AUGUST 30

THE AMERICAN people are ready to "turn the page" on Donald Trump, Kamala Harris has said, asserting that her Republican challenger is pushing an agenda which "divides" the country and "diminishes the character" of its people.

In her first major television interview of her presidential campaign, the 59-year-old US Vice President, who will face Trump in the November 5 elections, said the American people are ready for a "new way forward".

"I think sadly in the last decade, we have had in the former president someone who has really been pushing an agenda and an environment that is about diminishing the character and the strength of who we are as Americans — really dividing our nation," Harris, in a joint interview with her running mate Minnesota Governor Tim Walz told CNN. "And I think people are



Vice President Kamala Harris speaks at a campaign rally in Savannah, Thursday. AP

ready to turn the page on that," Harris, the Democratic Party's candidate, said.

Harris vowed a tougher approach to migration along the US southern border and said she would not withhold weapons to Israel. Harris said she would renew a push for comprehensive border legislation that would tighten migration into the US, and vowed to "enforce our laws" against border crossings.

She also heaved closely to President Joe Biden's strong support of Israel and rejected calls

from some in the Democratic Party that Washington should rethink sending weapons to Israel because of the heavy Palestinian death toll in Gaza.

She said she supports a strong Israel but "we must get a deal done" to get a ceasefire in the Gaza conflict. "No, we have to get a (ceasefire and hostage) deal done," Harris said when asked if she would withhold weapons to Israel. Abbas Alawieh, a co-founder of the Uncommitted National Movement that has protested against Biden's policy,

expressed frustration over Harris' response on Gaza.

Harris defended her and Biden's handling of inflation, saying they inherited a pandemic-ravaged economy that she said Trump had mismanaged. She said much work had been done to lower prices but that "prices are still too high."

Trump, in a post on Truth Social, responded to the interview by saying: "I look so forward to Debating Comrade Kamala Harris and exposing her for the fraud she is."

'Next question, please': Harris on Trump's race comments

Washington: "Next question, lease". This is how Kamala Harris responded to a question in her first in-depth interview when asked about Trump's remarks questioning her race.

Fifty-nine-year-old Harris, who is of Indian and African descent, was asked to comment on Trump's remarks on her race.

Harris brushed off the question and said Trump's remarks as an "old, tired playbook." Trump has been making disparaging remarks about Harris during the campaign. Trump had falsely claimed Harris had only emphasised her Asian-American heritage until recently when, he said, "she became a black person" for political gain.

"I didn't know she was Black until a number of years ago when she happened to turn Black and now, she wants to be known as Black. So, I don't know, is she Indian or is she Black?" Trump said at the time.

Harris' mother, Shyamala Gopalan, was originally from India and her father, Donald Harris, is from Jamaica. **PTI**

US joins probe into Ukaraine F-16 crash

ASSOCIATED PRESS

KYIV, AUGUST 30

US EXPERTS have joined a Ukrainian investigation into why an F-16 warplane that Ukraine received from its Western partners crashed earlier this week during a Russian bombardment, the country's air force commander said on Friday.

Commander Mykola Oleshchuk said on Telegram that "a detailed analysis is already being conducted" into why the fighter jet went down on Monday, when Russia launched a major missile and drone barrage at Ukraine.

The crash was the first reported loss of an F-16 in Ukraine, where they arrived at the end of last month. At least six of the warplanes are believed to have

been delivered by European countries. Russia's army is making slow but gradual progress in its drive into eastern Ukraine, while Ukraine's forces are holding ground in the Kursk border region of western Russia.

Putin trip

Ukraine Friday urged Mongolia to arrest Russian President Vladimir Putin on an International Criminal Court warrant when he visits on Sept. 3, but the Kremlin said it was not worried about the trip.

The warrant obliges the court's 124 member states, including Mongolia, to arrest Putin and transfer him to The Hague for trial. Asked whether Moscow was concerned, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters: "No, no worries about this. We have a great dialogue with them."

Hamas commander killed in West Bank

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WEST BANK, AUGUST 30

ISRAELI FORCES killed a local commander of the Islamist movement Hamas in the flash-point city of Jenin on Friday as they pressed a major operation in the occupied West Bank for a third day, the Israeli military said.

The military said Border Police forces had killed Wassem Hazem, who it said was the head of Hamas in Jenin and was involved in shooting and bombing attacks in the Palestinian territory.

Two other Hamas gunmen who tried to escape the car they were all travelling in were killed by a drone, it said, adding that weapons, explosives and large sums of cash were found in the vehicle. Hamas confirmed the death of all three men, who it said were members of its Al-Qassam Brigades armed wing.



A family travels on a bike after Israeli forces withdraw following a ground operation in Khan Younis in the southern Gaza Strip, Friday. Reuters

Israeli armoured personnel carriers backed by helicopters and drones pushed into Jenin and Tulkarm on Friday while armoured bulldozers ploughed up

roads to destroy roadside bombs planted by the militant groups.

In the first two days of the West Bank operation, at least 17 Palestinians were killed. The

British government said on Friday it was "deeply concerned" by Israel's operation in the West Bank and said there was an urgent need for de-escalation.

Pak relaxes rules for China's highway project

PTI & REUTERS

ISLAMABAD, AUGUST 30

PAKISTAN RELAXED bidding rules to directly award a USD 2 billion contract to China for the construction of a strategically important road, according to a media report on Friday.

Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb-led Economic Coordination Committee of the cabinet on Thursday approved to invoke a special rule to exempt the requirement for the international competitive bidding to award a contract to Chinese firms for the construction of a section of the Karakoram Highway. The Express Tribune newspaper re-



Workers repair a railway track after a militant attack, in Pakistan's Balochistan on August 27. Reuters file

ported. The Thakot-Raikot section of the highway is critical to keep China-Pakistan connected through the land route.

Meanwhile, the start of oper-

ations at a Chinese-funded airport in Pakistan's Balochistan province has been pushed back for a security review after last week's deadly attacks by sepa-

ratist militants in the area, government and aviation sources said. More than 70 people were killed in the coordinated attacks across Balochistan.

It will handle domestic and international flights, according to Pakistan's Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), and will be one of the country's biggest airports.

The initial plan was for Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to inaugurate the airport on August 14 but that was called off after an ethnic Baloch rights group started a sit-in protest, the officials said.

Following last week's attacks, the deadliest in years, officials said the start of flights would be delayed as authorities review security in the region.

Kremlin says it made no deal with Telegram boss

REUTERS

MOSCOW, AUGUST 30

THE KREMLIN has never made any deals with Telegram boss Pavel Durov, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said on Friday, adding that he was not aware of any meetings between the tech entrepreneur and Russian President Vladimir Putin.

A French judge put Russian-born Durov under formal investigation on Wednesday for suspected complicity in running an online platform that allows illicit transactions, child sex abuse images, drug trafficking and fraud.

Durov's lawyer said on

Thursday it was "absurd" to suggest he should be held responsible for any crimes committed on the app. "There were no negotiations between Durov and the Kremlin," Peskov told reporters. "And the fact that he visited Russia, well, he is a Russian citizen, he moves freely, so naturally he visited Russia." "There were no deals between the Kremlin and Durov," Peskov said. Peskov said that as far as he was aware, Putin and Durov had never met.

Russia, after years of pressure on Durov and his tech ventures, has rallied behind him, with Peskov this week saying that the case against him should not become political persecution.

Durov's lawyer said on Thursday it was "absurd" to suggest he should be held responsible for any crimes committed on the app. "There were no negotiations between Durov and the Kremlin," Peskov told reporters. "And the fact that he visited Russia, well, he is a Russian citizen, he moves freely, so naturally he visited Russia." "There were no deals between the Kremlin and Durov," Peskov said. Peskov said that as far as he was aware, Putin and Durov had never met.

Russia, after years of pressure on Durov and his tech ventures, has rallied behind him, with Peskov this week saying that the case against him should not become political persecution.

Durov's lawyer said on Thursday it was "absurd" to suggest he should be held responsible for any crimes committed on the app. "There were no negotiations between Durov and the Kremlin," Peskov told reporters. "And the fact that he visited Russia, well, he is a Russian citizen, he moves freely, so naturally he visited Russia." "There were no deals between the Kremlin and Durov," Peskov said. Peskov said that as far as he was aware, Putin and Durov had never met.

Little effect on thawing ties

BERLIN DOES not have diplomatic relations with the Taliban, requiring the government to work through other channels. It's unlikely that Friday's actions will lead to a wider thawing of relations between Germany and the Taliban.

to political pressure during an election campaign. She added that Afghanistan is not safe and alleged that the deportations violate international law.

German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock has slammed the morality laws in posts on X. While Hebestreit said the deportations have been in the works for months, they occurred a week after a deadly knife attack in Solingen in which the suspect is a Syrian citizen. The suspect was supposed to be deported to Bulgaria last year.

The Islamic State militant group claimed responsibility for last Friday's attack. The extremist group said on its news site that the attacker targeted Christians and that he carried out the assaults "to avenge Muslims in Palestine and everywhere".

Bangladesh: UN team to probe 'rights abuse' during uprising

ASSOCIATED PRESS

GENEVA, AUGUST 30

THE UN human rights office said Friday that it will deploy a fact-finding team to Bangladesh to investigate alleged rights abuses and violations through use of excessive force by security forces to quell protests led by students against the former government this summer.

The office of the UN. High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk said he had received an invitation from the country's interim leader Muhammad Yunus, to send the team to Bangladesh. The visit is set to take place in the coming weeks. Yunus, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate, took over this month as head of the government after former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina stepped down and fled the country to India amid a mass uprising.

The United Nations has reported nearly 650 people have died since July 15 when the student protests turned violent, and the figures also covered the deaths of many in new violence after Hasina left the country on August 5. A UN advance team visited Bangladesh over the last week and met with student leaders of the protests as well as interim government and police officials, journalists, rights defenders and others. The team received commitments from authorities and security for their "full cooperation" with the team's work, the rights office said.

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday spoke to Yunus during which the two leaders agreed to work closely for the progress and prosperity of the people of both countries.

OVER 20 EXPERTS HAVE CALLED ON UK GOVT TO DELAY PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO THE CASE BECAUSE OF GROWING CONCERNS ABOUT EVIDENCE

British inquiry into 'killer nurse' won't weigh the key question: Is she innocent?

MARK LANDLER

LONDON, AUGUST 30

A PUBLIC inquiry into the case of Lucy Letby, a British neonatal nurse convicted of killing seven babies, has come under fire from scientific and medical experts who have called for it to be delayed or broadened to consider whether the deaths could have been caused by other factors.

The inquiry, set to begin Sept. 10, will cast a fresh spotlight on one of the most haunting murder cases in recent British history. Conscientious and well-liked by

her colleagues, Letby was found guilty of killing seven infants, and trying to kill seven others, in a busy public hospital in 2015 and 2016. Letby, 34, was sentenced to life in prison last year and her requests for appeals have so far been denied. But questions about the handling of the investigation and the evidence used to convict her have grown harder to ignore, with prominent experts in statistics and neonatal medicine arguing that both were gravely flawed.

Under the terms of its mandate, the inquiry will not scrutinize those questions. Instead it will hold hearings to probe the ex-

periences of the families of the babies who died and the conduct of nurses, doctors, and other health workers at the Countess of Chester Hospital, Liverpool.

Led by Kate Thirlwall, an appeals court justice, the inquiry seeks to determine "whether suspicions should have been raised earlier; whether Lucy Letby should have been suspended earlier, and whether the police or other external bodies should have been informed sooner about suspicions about her." The thornier question — whether Letby might have been wrongfully convicted — falls beyond the scope of the inquiry,



Lucy Letby was sentenced to life in prison after being found guilty of killing seven infants in a public hospital in 2015 and 2016. AP

which was announced in 2023 by the health secretary in the last Conservative government.

The inquiry's narrow scope prompted 24 experts to send a letter last month to the current health secretary, Wes Streeting, and the justice secretary, Shabana Mahmood. They wrote, "While we acknowledge the gravity of the convictions against Letby, our focus is on the broader implications for patient safety, health-care management and the potential for miscarriages of justice in complex medical cases."

"Possible negligent deaths that were presumed to be murders

could result in an incomplete investigation of the management response to the crisis," they added, in a letter first reported by *The Guardian*. Among the signatories are Peter Elston, a fellow of the Royal Statistical Society, and Gillian Tully, an expert in forensic science at Kings College London who served as the forensic science regulator for England and Wales.

Medical experts have argued that other factors — including staff shortages, crowded conditions in the ward, poor equipment, or management problems — could have contributed to the abnormally high number of babies dy-

ing or becoming seriously ill in the unit where Letby worked.

Statisticians have criticised the investigation for concluding that because Letby was on duty during a cluster of these incidents, she must have been responsible for them. The case hinged on her being held responsible for administering an overdose of insulin to two babies, but both survived, and several medical experts said the test results used to suggest insulin had been artificially administered were not reliable as evidence of a crime. There were no witnesses to Letby killing or mistreating babies under her care, and she has de-

nied murdering anyone. While her lawyers tried to discredit the prosecution's evidence, they did not present their own evidence.

In May, The New York Times published a highly critical 13,000-word investigation of the case. The magazine's publisher, Condé Nast, blocked access to online readers in Britain, for fear of being held in contempt. British papers, like *The Guardian* and *The Times of London*, have since run articles questioning the evidence. For all the concerns being raised, however, some doubt the new Labour government will delay or expand the scope of the inquiry. **NYT**

13 ECONOMY

SENSEX: 82,365.77 ▲ 231.16 (0.28%) NIFTY: 25,235.90 ▲ 83.95 (0.33%) NIKKEI: 38,647.75 ▲ 285.22 HANG SENG: 17,989.07 ▲ 202.75 FTSE: 8,407.59 ▲ 27.95 DAX: 18,959.82 ▲ 47.25



GOLD

₹74,350



USD RATE

₹83.85



OIL

\$77.92



SILVER

₹87,200

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) as of August 29

International market data till 1900 IST

AMID POLITICAL CRISIS IN BANGLADESH

Cotton exports to Bangladesh hit as Dhaka's Western garment orders dry up

RAVIDUTTA MISHRA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

EVEN AS production units in Bangladesh resume operations, with workers putting in extra hours to clear backlogged orders, Western garment and footwear firms have temporarily paused placing new orders in the violence-hit neighbouring country, industry sources told *The Indian Express*.

The decline in orders from Bangladesh has had a spillover effect on the Indian textile industry, which supplies raw materials and other input items to Bangladesh. While fresh inquiries for garments are coming to India, Indian cotton exports to Bangladesh have begun to decline, industry executives said.

"New orders are not coming in from Western companies. The workers and the administration understand that production is the lifeline, and they are working overtime to complete orders. Some items are being sourced from India to fulfil the orders, and



File

even more technicians are coming from India," M. Rafeeq Ahmed, Chairman of Chennai-based Farida Group, said. The Group has investments in Bangladesh's footwear sector.

Ahmed stated that much of the production is taking place in Dhaka and Chittagong, which are relatively isolated from the protests. There were disruptions earlier in August, but normalcy is returning, he said, adding that Western orders will eventually resume due to the favourable duty climate owing to

Bangladesh's status as a least developed country (LDC).

"Western companies are looking at India as an alternative, but much depends on the capacity to deliver, which at the moment has qualitative and quantitative mismatches between Indian and Bangladeshi product offerings," said Chandrima Chatterjee, Secretary General of the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry (CITI).

Chatterjee mentioned that garment inquiries are coming in, but the immediate impact on the

Indian textile industry has been negative since our exports of input materials to Bangladesh have slowed down. However, our PLI scheme and PM Mitra scheme are steps in the right direction to cater to national demand, she added.

A garment sector executive who did not wish to be named said that Western companies were already looking at India even before the ongoing crisis in Bangladesh. The European market is increasingly concerned about human rights issues in Bangladesh and is therefore looking at the Indian market.

"The saturation in Bangladesh began some time ago, but orders had not been moving to India. Most of them are going to Cambodia, Vietnam, and Indonesia. India has a lot of opportunities, but our product mix is not changing, and the benefits are not arriving," the executive said on condition of anonymity.

The Bangladeshi textile and garment industry, which accounts for over 80 per cent of Bangladesh's total export earnings and contributes approxi-

mately 11 per cent to the nation's GDP.

Bangladesh's \$45 billion clothing industry, which employs over four million workers, was already affected due to the weakening electricity generation infrastructure, hit by higher input costs following the start of the Russia-Ukraine war and adverse weather events, according to S&P Global. The situation in Bangladesh continues to be a concern, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Joe Biden discussed the situation in Bangladesh on Monday.

Earlier this month, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had also said that the Indian garment and knitted fabric sector is experiencing "a bit of uncertainty" amid the ongoing political developments in the neighbouring country of Bangladesh.

She expressed hope that the interim government there would settle things "sooner rather than later", adding that efforts are being made to ensure that borders with the neighbouring country are safe.

RBI DATA AS OF JULY

Bank credit growth picks up, deposit growth lags behind

GEORGE MATHEW
MUMBAI, AUGUST 30

NON-FOOD bank credit registered a growth of 15.1 per cent to Rs 162.92 lakh crore as of July 2024 as compared with 14.7 per cent a year ago, according to the Reserve Bank of India's latest data.

However, deposit growth of banks lagged behind at 11.3 per cent at Rs 213.28 lakh crore, RBI data shows. With deposits growth slowing down, banks are racing to mobilise funds through special deposit schemes and other innovative plans to meet the credit demand in the system. Many banks have reported a decline in deposits during the quarter ended June 2024 as customers are now looking at alternative avenues like the capital markets to park their funds at better returns.

Credit to agriculture and allied activities remained robust registering a growth of 18.1 per cent at Rs 21.55 lakh crore in July 2024, compared with 16.7 per cent a year ago, RBI said.

Credit growth to industry strengthened significantly at 10.2 per cent to Rs 37.05 lakh crore in July 2024 compared with 4.6 per cent in July 2023.

Among major industries, credit to chemicals and chemical products, food processing, petroleum, coal products and nuclear fuels and infrastructure recorded a higher growth in July 2024 as compared to their growth a year ago, while credit to basic metal and metal product and textiles moderated, the RBI said. The cen-



tral bank said credit growth to medium industries rose to 17.2 per cent to Rs 3.17 lakh crore and large industry by 8.5 per cent to Rs 26.74 lakh crore.

Credit growth to services sector moderated to 15.4 per cent in July 2024 from 19.7 per cent a year ago, primarily driven down by relatively lower credit growth in non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) and trade segments. Credit growth in commercial real estate, tourism, hotels and restaurants and computer software accelerated during July 2024, the RBI said.

However, personal loans growth was lower at 17.8 per cent to Rs 51.39 lakh crore in July 2024 as compared to 18.4 per cent a year ago, largely due to moderation in growth recorded in other personal loans and vehicle loans. However, credit growth to housing, the largest constituent of the segment, accelerated.

According to the RBI, growth in credit card outstanding declined to 22 per cent to Rs 2.75 lakh crore from 32.4 per cent a year ago. **FULL REPORT ON** www.indianexpress.com

April-July fiscal deficit at 17% of annual target

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

THE CENTRE'S fiscal deficit more than halved to Rs 2.8 lakh crore or 17.2 per cent of the annual target in the first four months of the current financial year compared with 33.9 per cent in the year-ago period, due to a decline in capex and buoyant revenue receipts.

Due to a slowdown in government programmes due to general elections (in April-May), the Centre's capex fell by 17.6 per cent to Rs 2.6 lakh crore in April-July of FY25. Encouragingly, capex has doubled to Rs 80,200 crore in the month of July 2024 from Rs 38,600 crore in the year ago month.

To meet the FY25 budget estimate, Rs 8.5 lakh crore capex needs to be incurred in the last eight months of the year, an expansion of 34.6 per cent on year, which appears quite challenging despite a pickup.

Revenue expenditure also fell by 2.3 per cent on year in April-July 2024. The headroom of Rs 26.7 lakh crore left for revenue spending in August-March of FY25 is around 10 per cent higher than the expenditure of Rs 24.3 trillion recorded in the year-ago period.

In April-July 2024, the net tax revenues rose by 23 per cent, non-tax revenues expanded by 69 per cent boosted by the RBI dividend. **FE**

BRIEFLY

Key infra sectors' growth slows to 6.1% in July

New Delhi: The growth in production of eight key infrastructure sectors slowed to 6.1 per cent in July this year due to a decline in the output of crude oil and natural gas, according to official data released on Friday. The growth rate, however, is up from 5.1 per cent in June. The growth of core sectors -- coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertiliser, steel, cement and electricity -- was 8.5 per cent in July 2023. **PTI**

Committees for online resolution of tax disputes set up

New Delhi: The income tax department on Friday said dispute resolution committees have been set up in all the 18 principal commissionerates under the electronic dispute resolution scheme. The Central Board of Direct Taxes had notified the e-Dispute Resolution Scheme, 2022 with the aim to reduce litigation and provide relief to eligible taxpayers. **PTI**

Forex kitty swells by \$7 bn to hit record high

New Delhi: India's forex reserves jumped by \$7,023 billion to touch a new high of \$681.6 billion in the week ended August 23, the RBI said on Friday. The overall reserves had jumped by \$4.5 billion to \$674.6 billion in the previous reporting week. The previous all-time high for the reserves was recorded at \$674.9 billion on August 2. For the week ended August 23, foreign currency assets increased by \$5.9 billion to \$597.5 billion. **PTI**

We are not getting into rate war: SBI chief Setty

Mumbai: State Bank of India (SBI) Chairman CS Setty on Friday said most of the banks, including SBI, are not getting into a rate war but competition for deposits is likely to continue for some time amid the movement of funds to other asset classes.

Addressing the Global Fintech Fest (GFF) in Mumbai, Setty said, "It is a fact that due to the change in asset allocation of the customers, some movement of investments is going to other asset classes. So, obviously, increase in credit growth and savings to other asset classes is putting pressure on deposits of the banks."

"We want to attract customers by way of improved service quality and some banks are looking at opening branches," Setty said. Banks have been witnessing a bigger growth in credit offtake and a sluggish growth in deposits of late.

"Everyone is looking at how to get more value out of their existing customers and attract new customers by offering better quality of service. Essentially there will be some tweaking in interest rates particularly in the one-to-two-year bucket. Competition for deposits is likely to continue for some time," Setty said. **ENS**

GLOBAL FINTECH FEST

India's fintech system will improve ease of living: PM

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
MUMBAI, AUGUST 30

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Friday said that India's financial ecosystem will not only play an important role in providing a quality lifestyle to its citizens but will also improve ease of living for the entire world.

Speaking at the Global Fintech Fest (GFF), the PM said the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is a great example of India's fintech success. He asked regulators to take measures to stop cyber frauds and improve digital literacy in the country. "I have confidence that India's fintech ecosystem will play an important role in providing a quality lifestyle to its citizens. I believe that India's fintech system will improve the ease of living for the entire world," he said.

Noting that he has faith in the talent of the country's youth, Modi said, "I can say with confidence that our best is yet to come."

In his address, the Prime Minister indicated that he intends to remain in power for a long time. "Is this your fifth edition (of Global Fintech Fest)?" Modi asked Reserve Bank of India Governor



PM Narendra Modi with RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das during the Global FinTech Fest 2024 on Friday. **PTI**

Shaktikanta Das and Global Fintech Fest Chairman and co-founder of Infosys Kris Gopalakrishnan, who were sitting on the dais. "I will come to the 10th edition (of GFF)," Modi declared.

Hailing the country's fintech innovations, the PM said, "Earlier foreign guests visiting India used to be amazed by its cultural diversity, now they are amazed by its fintech diversity as well. One can witness India's fintech revolution in all directions, right from the arrival at the airport to eating street food to the shopping experience,

he said. "In the last 10 years, the fintech industry has received a record investment of more than \$31 billion along with witnessing a start-up growth of 500 per cent," he underlined, highlighting affordable mobile phones, inexpensive data and Jan Dhan Bank accounts starting with zero balance for bringing in a revolution.

Criticising opposition leaders, Modi said they used to question him in Parliament about various reforms undertaken by the government. **FULL REPORT ON** www.indianexpress.com

Apple and Nvidia in talks to invest in OpenAI

CADE METZ, MICHAEL J. DE LA MERCED AND TRIPP MICKLE
SAN FRANCISCO, AUGUST 30

APPLE AND chipmaker Nvidia are in talks to invest in OpenAI as part of a new deal that would value the San Francisco artificial intelligence startup at \$100 billion, according to three people familiar with the discussions, who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

The deal would be led by Thrive Capital and might also include Microsoft. Thrive would put about \$1 billion into OpenAI, the people said. A \$100 billion valuation would be about a \$20 billion increase from OpenAI's valuation eight months ago. Nvidia and Apple declined to comment.

OpenAI started the AI boom with the release of online chatbot ChatGPT in late 2022. In the months that followed, investors pumped tens of billions of dol-

lars into the startup and other companies that were developing similar technologies.

In recent months, investors' interest has cooled as several prominent startups essentially disappeared into tech giants like Google, Amazon and Microsoft. But OpenAI has remained an independent operation intent on building and selling its own technologies and products.

Since 2019, Microsoft and others have invested over \$13

billion in the startup, which needs billions of dollars in raw computing power to build its AI technologies.

Nvidia, which supplies much of that computing power in the form of specialised computer chips suited to the development of AI, has experienced dramatic growth over the past 18 months. On Wednesday, Nvidia reported that its sales and profit had more than doubled during the three months that ended in July. **NYT**

DGTR recommends anti-dumping duty on aluminium foils imported from China

ENSECONOMICBUREAU
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

THE DIRECTORATE General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on Friday recommended the imposition of an anti-dumping duty on aluminium foils imported from China, after observing that Chinese imports had captured 30 per cent of the Indian market despite sufficient domestic capacity.

This follows a request for an inquiry from Hindalco, one of India's largest aluminium manufacturing companies, on the grounds of injury to domestic companies. Other applicants included Shyam Sel & Power Ltd, Venkateshwara

Electrocast Pvt. Ltd, and Ravi Raj Foils Ltd.

Anti-dumping investigations are conducted by countries to determine whether domestic industries have been harmed due to a surge in cheap imports. The Ministry of Finance makes the final decision on whether to impose duties. The DGTR stated that imports of "aluminium foil up to 80 microns, excluding aluminium foil below 5.5 microns for non-capacitor applications," are undercutting the prices of the domestic industry. This price undercutting has forced the domestic industry to reduce its selling price below the cost of production, the DGTR said. The foil is used as a packaging material for the conservation and preservation of edible and food

EXPLAINED **Curbing imports from China**

DESPITE SEVERAL efforts to curb imports from China, goods are increasingly making their way into India. Chinese imports have already crossed \$60 billion during the first seven months of 2024.

products. The recommended duty ranges between \$619 per tonne and \$873 per tonne.

"The combined capacities and production of these domestic producers during the period of inves-

tigation (POI) were 1,32,140 MT and 69,572 MT, respectively, against known Indian capacity and production of 2,89,735 MT and 1,26,495 MT. These companies thus collectively command about 45 per cent of capacity and 54 per cent of production in the POI," the order dated August 30 read. Notably, other companies, in their views submissions to the DGTR, warned against the "creation of a monopoly". "If duties are imposed, it will adversely affect downstream producers and lead to an inability to source the subject goods with good product quality and lead times, impacting the ability of downstream producers to meet customer demands," the industries' submission to the DGTR stated.

NMDC LIMITED
(A Government of India Enterprises)
"Khanji Bhavan", 10-3-311/A, Castle Hills, Masab Tank, Hyderabad-500028. CIN-L13100TG1958GOI001674

Invitation for Pre-Expression of Interest meeting for acquiring Land for Compensatory Afforestation
Pre EOI No. : NMDC/Coal/Ho/Rohne/30 Dt.31.08.2024
NMDC Limited, a 'Navratna' Public Sector Company under the Ministry of Steel, Government of India, invites interested and experienced firms to participate in a Pre-Expression of Interest (Pre-EOI) Meeting for engagement as a Consultant/Facilitator. The engagement is for acquiring approximately 1,950 acres of Non-Forest Land (NFL) and transferring it in favor of the Forest Department for Compensatory Afforestation (CA) to obtain Forest Clearance for the Rohne Coal Mine in Hazaribagh District, Jharkhand, within stipulated timeline. The Pre-EOI meeting is scheduled for **September 10, 2024, 10 am**, in Ranchi. The details of the Pre EOI-Meeting can be viewed and downloaded from **31.08.2024 to 10.09.2024** in the following websites.
1. NMDC website - <https://www.nmdc.co.in>
2. Central Public Procurement portal - <https://www.eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app> and search pre EOI documents through the Pre EOI No.
For accessing the details of pre EOI from NMDC Web site for the first time; on-line registration is required as 'New User' in 'Tenders' section at website link <https://www.nmdc.co.in> of NMDC. The intended parties are required to visit NMDC's Website and/or CPP Portal for corrigendum, if any, at a future date.
For further details, following can be contacted.
General Manager (Coal), NMDC Ltd, 2nd Floor, JSFC Bhawan, Besides Bharat Petrol Pump, Kadru Main Road, Ranchi, Telephone No. 0651-299966 (Mob No : 7595986600, 9826247976) email: nmddcoal@nmdc.co.in
General Manager (Coal) Ranchi

RajCOMP Info Services Limited (RISL)
C-Block, 1st Floor, Yojana Bhawan, Tilak Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur

RISL invites e-bids from the eligible bidders for the following:

NIB No./Date/Unique bid no.	Particulars	Estimated Cost/ EMD	Start of sale /Last date
F4.3(607)/RISL/Tech/2024/4150 Dated : 28.08.2024 UBN No. : RIS24255LOB00038	Short Term RFP for Hiring Services of OEM Oracle Resources under Jan Aadhaar and e-Mitra Project for a period of Two Year.	Rs. 3.40 Crores / Rs. 6,80,000.00	29/08/2024 12/09/2024

Details can be seen on the websites <http://risl.rajjasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.rajjasthan.gov.in>, <http://doitc.rajjasthan.gov.in>. Bids are to be submitted through <http://eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in>
Raj.Samwad/C/24/4450

Lakshmbhai National Institute of Physical Education, Gwalior
Deemed to be University
Government of India,
Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

No. : E/B&R/RE-EMPALEMENT OF PSU/44/2023-24/67 DATE : 22.08.2024

NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR EMPANELMENT OF PUBLIC SECTOR UNDERTAKING /ENTERPRISE TO CARRY-OUT DEPOSIT WORKS, SPECIAL REPAIRS & MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE AT L.N.I.P.E., GWALIOR AND/OR N.E.R.C., GUWAHATI
The Institute invites Sealed two-bid (Technical and Price) Expression of Interest (Eoi) from eligible and reputed Public Sector Undertakings / Enterprises (set up or owned by the Central or State Govt.) for empANELMENT as construction agency for a period of 5 years for entrusting deposit/new works, special repairs and major maintenance works at its campus in Gwalior as well as its North East Regional Centre, Guwahati (Assam). The approximate value of works for each of the campus may be ranging from 20-25 crores during 5 years.
The interested PSUs, who find themselves eligible as per eligibility conditions of the Eoi, given in this tender document, may submit their bids in the prescribed formats along with all information, documents, EMD of Rs. 10.00 lakhs for Gwalior campus and Rs. 10.00 lakhs for Guwahati campus, payable by Bank Draft in favour of "Registrar, LNIPE" drawn at Gwalior, by speed post or registered post or by hand, so as to reach/drop in the tender box at the office of **Deputy Registrar (Projects), LNIPE, Gwalior up to 3.00 PM on 30th Sep 2024**. The technical bids shall be opened on 30th Sep 2024 at 4.00 PM in the presence of authorized representatives of bidders, and financial bids of only technically qualified bidders shall be opened later on with due intimation to such bidders. The detailed Eoi document-cum-form is free of cost, which may be downloaded from the web-site of Institute www.lnipe.edu.in as well as CPPP Portal for submission, which forms integral part of this NIT.
(Dr. Sanjeev Yadav)
REGISTRAR I/c

Solidarity over fear



RIA CHAKRABARTY

The Hindu minority is not helpless. It wants the new Bangladesh to remain inclusive and secular

A HINT OF HOPE

A precarious road lies ahead, but Delhi and Beijing could be inching towards solutions both sides can live with

THE LATEST ROUND of talks with China on easing the military stand-off in eastern Ladakh raises hopes for the long-awaited breakthrough that could end the current political stalemate in bilateral relations. The Foreign Office has described the talks as “constructive and forward looking” and said that the two sides are looking to “narrow down differences and find early resolution of the outstanding issues”. The optimistic tone follows two meetings in quick succession between External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and China’s top diplomat, Wang Yi. That these talks have been going on since the surprise Chinese aggression across the Line of Actual Control during the Spring of 2020 without restoration of status quo ante on the border suggests that India must temper its optimism. The well-known but divergent approaches of Delhi and Beijing to the negotiations reinforce the case for considerable caution in assessing the immediate prospects of a breakthrough.

India, which had cut off all political engagement and severely limited commercial ties with China since 2020, insists that the “state of the border” will reflect the “state of the bilateral relations.” China has argued against India’s condition that settling the border stand-off must precede renewal of bilateral relations. China has called, instead, for putting the border question in its “proper place” and going ahead with the “normalisation” of the relationship. The hint of hope arises out of the assessment that Beijing and Delhi may be inching towards a finessing of the situation that could take them to a common ground. Over the last many rounds, the two militaries have “disengaged” from several friction points that emerged from Chinese aggression and the Indian riposte in 2020. The current focus appears to be on resolving two legacy issues that arose from earlier military crises in Depsang and Demchok in eastern Ladakh. Military experts have long pointed to solutions that both sides could live with.

On the political front, Beijing is recognising the costs of its military aggression — in the form of deteriorating relations with a major Asian neighbour and lost business opportunities in one of the world’s fast-growing markets. Delhi, too, sees that the lack of normal engagement with Beijing, at a time when most major powers, including India’s Quad partners, are talking to China, is problematic. A potential deal involves China agreeing to ease the military stand-off in eastern Ladakh and India restoring political dialogue and ending the constraints on commerce with China. The NDA government’s annual Economic Survey as well as several industry groups have been pressing the government to take a fresh look at the economic measures imposed against Beijing in the summer of 2020. As Delhi looks for a long-awaited closure to the current phase of tensions with Beijing, it must reach out to the Opposition parties, the foreign policy community and the public at large to explain the contours of the potential deal and make the case for it in terms of India’s national interest. Talks with China have always been shrouded in mystery that even experts find hard to decode. The political polarisation within the country and the hyper-nationalism that has run unchecked over the last decade could derail even a sensible arrangement with China.

FROTH & EXUBERANCE

Sebi warning on SME stocks is timely. There is need for continued vigilance

THE INDIAN STOCK markets continue to climb upwards. Since the beginning of this year, the BSE Sensex is up almost 14 per cent. Investor enthusiasm is, however, not confined to the larger companies, the smaller companies are also witnessing spectacular gains. The BSE Smallcap index has risen by 30 per cent year-to-date, while the mid cap index is up around 33 per cent. However, for some time now, there have been concerns that across segments, especially in the small and midcap space, certain stocks have been trading at valuations that are difficult to justify. In fact, earlier, some mutual funds had restricted flows into their small cap schemes. In March, Sebi Chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch had also spoken of the “froth” in certain market segments. But the euphoria continues. There are numerous examples of such investor exuberance. Recently Resourceful Automobiles, a Delhi-based company with only two showrooms and eight employees, came out with an initial public offering of Rs 11.99 crore. The issue was oversubscribed 418 times, with bids for around Rs 5,000 crore. In the case of Aesthetik Engineers, the company came out with an IPO of Rs 26.47 crore that was heavily oversubscribed with bids worth Rs 18,000 crore. Since April, 108 SME IPOs have hit the market — of these, 99 listed at a premium, and in some cases, there were huge gains.

Questions have been raised by market analysts over the participants in some of the heavily oversubscribed SME IPOs, about whether they are “causing frenzy” in the hope of eventually dumping their shares on “gullible retail investors”. The worry has been that considering the relatively smaller float available in the case of smaller companies, they may be easier to manipulate. Earlier this year, the SEBI Chairperson had spoken on the possibility of price manipulation in IPOs and trading of small and medium enterprises. On Wednesday, the stock market regulator also said that some SME companies and/or their promoters have post-listing painted an “unrealistic” assessment of their operations to create a positive narrative about the company. This is meant to induce investors to buy the stocks, allowing the promoters to offload their shares at higher prices. SEBI has asked investors to be “watchful”.

In July, the NSE imposed a cap of 90 per cent on the issue price of SME IPOs. However, continued vigilance is required. As millions of new investors enter the markets — as per a report, the total number of demat accounts has increased to 16.2 crore as of June — the guiding objective should be to safeguard investor interests and protect the integrity of markets.

THE LONGEST FORMAT

That India is hosting the first-ever Test between Afghanistan and New Zealand shows BCCI’s commitment to the game

A TEST MATCH between Afghanistan and New Zealand wouldn’t normally set pulses racing. One of the teams is a relatively new entrant to the longest format of cricket while the other, despite having a proud history across various versions of the game, has never been considered one of the bigger sides, often being patronised for “punching above their weight”. But the upcoming contest, set to begin on September 9 at the Greater Noida Sports Complex Ground, assumes significance due to the perceived crisis the five-day format is currently suffering, in the face of the unprecedented riches on offer for players in domestic T20 leagues around the world.

Afghanistan’s best-known cricketer, Rashid Khan, will not be in action against the Kiwis, having stepped aside from Test cricket for a year. New Zealand’s greatest-ever batsman, Kane Williamson, is part of the squad, but he and several of his colleagues now pick and choose international commitments after turning down their board’s central contracts. In fact, the conundrum that these two teams and others like the West Indies face, is symptomatic of the problems confronting Test cricket. This has prompted incoming International Cricket Council chair Jay Shah to propose a dedicated Test cricket fund worth Rs 125 crore for countries outside India, England and Australia to ensure that players get a minimum match fee of \$10,000, and that boards can manage touring and operational costs.

That India is hosting the first-ever Test between Afghanistan and New Zealand shows the BCCI’s commitment to the longest format for the last several years. The proceedings on the field at Greater Noida will be keenly followed. But the match itself is more significant as an indicator of the health of Test cricket. India will be front and centre of the picture, even if its own team doesn’t take the field.

ON AUGUST 5, when I saw the news that Sheikh Hasina was forced to resign, as a Bengali Hindu, I experienced two emotions in immediate succession: Joy at what student protesters had achieved and fear for what could happen to Bangladeshi minorities, especially Hindus. These fears were not unfounded. Bengali Hindus, in both India and Bangladesh, know that over the decades, when East Bengal has descended into chaos, Hindus have been in the crosshairs. That night, predictably, reports started emerging that extremists took advantage of the power vacuum Hasina left behind to attack minority communities. As Human Rights Watch noted, political actors took advantage of the power vacuum to attack their opponents, and extremists took advantage to attack religious and ethnic minorities.

In response, Bangladeshis organically began defending Hindu temples, Christian churches, and other minority community institutions. Led by the student protesters, Bangladeshis, just as they did in 1971, stood shoulder to shoulder to protect all communities and the idea of Bangladesh. The student protest leaders and their chosen interim government leader Mohammad Yunus have insisted that the next government must be a secular democracy that respects the rights of all, including minorities. Hindus have been crucial to the student protest, as Bengali Hindu students have always been in the history of East Bengal.

As Bangladeshis celebrate another freedom struggle, minorities are demanding that they be included in this new age of liberation. They want fundamental reforms to the Bangladeshi government, including a Minority Affairs Ministry and a 10 per cent reservation for minorities in Parliament.

But Indian Hindus have not taken the

But Indian Hindus have not taken the time to understand and listen to Bangladeshi Hindus. Some have suggested that Sheikh Hasina was the only person to guarantee Hindu existence in Bangladesh. To suggest that authoritarianism is necessary or to suggest that Bangladeshi Hindus are helpless is a deep disservice to a community that is integral to the fabric of Bangladesh and broader Bengali society.



WARISHA FARASAT

ABDUL GHAFUOR NOORANI is no more. But people like Noorani *sahab* don’t die. He will live through his stellar body of work and his contributions as a scholar who defended the ideals of justice enshrined in the Constitution. He will undoubtedly be remembered not only for his unmatched intellectual brilliance but also for his unquestioned moral rectitude.

Born in 1930, Noorani *sahab* witnessed the partition of the subcontinent and the constitution-writing process as a young man. He started his career at the Bombay High Court. As he became an authoritative voice on constitutional issues, he was often consulted by the political class on complex problems.

As a young law student, I was first introduced to Noorani *sahab* through his newspaper columns where he dealt with issues ranging from constitutional law to geopolitics. Along with a meticulous analysis of the legal landscapes, his writings were always replete with anecdotes that made the most complex aspects of constitutional law easily accessible. In fact, this careful legal analysis punctuated with anecdotes was a hallmark of his writings. He had perfected the art of weaving in constitutional assembly debates with contemporary political questions, making it impossible for the forces that misrepresented the intent of the founders of our Constitution to defend their political actions.

Unlike his writings, Noorani *sahab* wasn’t easily accessible in person. However, I was fortunate to know him and benefit from his legal and political scholarship. I met him recently in his small Napean Sea Road apartment in Bombay. The apartment

A SCHOLAR OF JUSTICE

In A G Noorani, intellectual brilliance met great moral courage

Noorani ‘sahab’ embodied the spirit of the secular and progressive India that our forefathers imagined. Merely calling him prolific does injustice to his writings and legacy. His rigour was unparalleled, and he dedicated his life to recording legal and political history over many decades. In this era of smartphones, and social media feeds, when uninformed polemical debates replace real conversation or engagement, there is much to learn from a man who never used email or a computer.

time to understand and listen to Bangladeshi Hindus. Some have suggested that Sheikh Hasina was the only person to guarantee Hindu existence in Bangladesh. To suggest that authoritarianism is necessary or to suggest that Bangladeshi Hindus are helpless is a deep disservice to a community that is integral to the fabric of Bangladesh and broader Bengali society. Bangladeshi Hindu students fought and died for this student protest movement alongside hundreds of their peers, as they have fought and died for the rights of all Bengalis in the Bengali Language Movement, the Six Point Movement, the Liberation War, and subsequent fights to fulfill the promise of secular democracy.

However, Indians, and Hindus in the diaspora, have been bombarded with appeals to protect helpless Hindu Bangladeshis from genocide. The far-right has used AI images of rows of dead Bangladeshi Hindus to ask the global Hindu community to keep all eyes on Bangladesh. Far-right Hindu diaspora organisations which have no presence in the Bengali community, are using our Bangladeshi brothers and sisters’ fears to suggest that Sheikh Hasina was the only one protecting Bangladeshi Hindus from genocide. One Twitter account compared Muhammad Yunus to Aung San Suu Kyi. Unlike Suu Kyi, who over her many years in power, supported the military in its genocide of the Rohingya, Yunus has roundly rejected anti-minority violence. In fact, Yunus has pleaded for an end to the anti-minority violence in his one week in power. At Dhakeshwari Temple, Bangladesh’s national Hindu temple, Yunus affirmed his dedication to protecting the rights of all. The current Bangladeshi political leadership has shown remarkable compassion and intentionality, unlike leaders interacting with

protesters in the rest of South Asia.

Indian Hindus must take their lead from the response by leaders in Bangladesh calling for support for minorities. Non-Bangladeshi Hindus need to be far more responsible in addressing what is happening to our brethren in Bangladesh. Far-right misinformation drowns out real concerns by Bangladeshi minorities about their safety. Indian misinformation actually makes Bangladeshi Hindus even more vulnerable, as their fears get dismissed as foreign propaganda.

Instead of consuming Indian hysteria that is designed to whip up violence against Indian Muslims, Indian Hindus should listen to the thousands of Bangladeshi Hindus pouring into the streets to demand structural changes to the Bangladeshi government. As protest leader Bipra Prasun Das noted, Bangladeshi Hindus need other Hindus to hear their concerns with real empathy. Bangladeshi Hindus do not deserve to be used as political cudgels to divide Indians along communal lines. Hindus owe it to each other to listen rather than use each other’s stories for their own selfish needs.

Bangladeshi Hindus are not helpless. They are not asking outside powers to save them. They do not want the return of authoritarianism. And they certainly do not want to leave their homes. What they need is for their fellow Hindus to amplify their concrete demands to ensure that Bangladesh is truly an inclusive, secular democracy that serves every Bangladeshi, regardless of faith, caste, or ethnicity.

The writer is senior policy director at *Hindus for Human Rights*, an organisation that advocates for human rights in South Asia and the Hindu diaspora

itself is a testament to his inimitable life and legacy. On the shelves, there were too many books to count. From Ibn Batuta’s travelogues, to books on the Palestine question, to the original editions of H M Seervai, it was all there. In one corner, his own books were neatly stacked.

Noorani *sahab* was the biggest living expert on Kashmir. His work on Article 370 (*Article 370: A Constitutional History of Jammu and Kashmir*) was the only book cited several times during the recent proceedings of the constitution bench of the Supreme Court. His book *The Kashmir Dispute* is a meticulously researched work which records every twist and turn in this vexed issue with irrefutable evidence. He had first-hand knowledge of every aspect of the Kashmir issue, having closely worked with or followed every major actor in the dispute. He had even represented Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah when he was incarcerated by the Union government.

His scholarship, however, wasn’t limited to Kashmir or the courtroom. Noorani *sahab* was one of the most formidable scholars of India’s diplomacy. On the Sino-India relationship, his book *India-China Boundary Problems, 1846-1947: History and Diplomacy* is a must-read. Similarly, his works *The Gulf Wars and Brezhnev Plan for Asian Security*, *Russia in Asia* are treasure troves on geopolitics, and his book *Citizens’ Rights, Judges and State Accountability* is an important resource on civil liberties. The range of Noorani *sahab*’s scholarship could be understood by the wide-ranging issues he dealt with in his books, including *Islam and Jihad*, *Badruddin Tyabji* and *Jinnah and Tilak: Comrades in the Freedom Struggle*, as

well as extensive work on the RSS, Savarkar and Hindutva.

What distinguished Noorani *sahab* was his moral courage. His aversion to sycophancy was legendary, and he always said things as they needed to be said. This is why, despite his great intellectual prowess and integrity, he was never a darling of any government. Over his decades of work, he spared no political dispensation in defence of the core values of the Constitution.

Noorani *sahab*’s love for food was second only to his love for constitutional law. It is said that there was not a single kebab take-out joint left in Mumbai from where he had not ordered his favourite galouti or kakori kebabs. He had a soft spot for Kashmiri food, and relished the traditional wazwan.

Noorani *sahab* embodied the spirit of the secular and progressive India that our forefathers imagined. Merely calling him prolific does injustice to his writings and legacy. His rigour was unparalleled, and he dedicated his life to recording legal and political history over many decades. In this era of smartphones, and social media feeds, when uninformed polemical debates replace real conversation or engagement, there is much to learn from a man who never used email or a computer. Noorani *sahab* taught us that there is no shortcut to excellence or empathy. I hope that those who cherish the fundamental principles of our Constitution, rule of law and secular ethos celebrate Noorani *sahab*’s life and legacy by setting up a foundation to keep his memory alive and make his work available to the next generations. May you rest in peace Noorani *sahab*.

The writer is a lawyer practising in Delhi

AUGUST 31, 1984, FORTY YEARS AGO

ARMY CONCESSIONS

MRS GANDHI’S GOVERNMENT announced major concessions to the armed forces, carrying out a widespread cadre review for officers and men. The government’s decision involves an extra expenditure of Rs 30 crore a year. The decision has been taken in view of the government’s anxiety about the prevailing stagnation at various levels in the three services and their inability to attract suitable candidates.

INDO-PAK TENSIONS

SIX PAKISTANI SOLDIERS were killed when they attempted to sneak into the Indian ter-

ritory through the line of actual control in the Uri sector, according to official sources in Srinagar. The sources said that the major clash was sparked off when under heavy covering fire, some Pakistani troops tried to enter the Indian territory but were repulsed.

SAVING THE SIKH PANTH

THE PROPOSED WORLD Sikh convention on September 2, which has been banned by the government, may, if it comes about, empower the five Sikh high priests to disband all political organisations of the Sikhs, including the Akali Dal in the state, it is authoritatively learnt. Sources close to the high priests hinted that since the struggle with the Centre was mostly

confined to “saving the Sikh Panth”. It was necessary that all political factions and in-fighting among the Sikhs must stop.

RAT WREAKS HAVOC

THE DIVINE CARRIER of Lord Ganesha, a day after Ganesh Chaturthi, committed hara kiri but not before playing havoc with two newspapers on Bahadurshah Zafar Marg. The well-fed rodent got into the junction box of the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking in the Times of India building and caused a short circuit which set off a chain reaction to the main feeder. Four jumpers were burnt and power was cut off to the Indian Express building, and the Times of India building.



15 THE IDEAS PAGE

Thank you for Deewaar

But a look back at Salim-Javed's work must also point out this: Their stories about personal arcs of hurt heroes did not challenge the socio-political status quo



ANJUM RAJABALI

THE RECENTLY RELEASED documentary, *Angry Young Men*, on the screenwriting duo of Salim Khan and Javed Akhtar, who became a powerhouse of dramatic scripts spawning an unprecedented 20 commercially successful movies in the Seventies, has quickly gathered fans while attracting some criticism too. It showcases nostalgia by tracing each one's early personal history, relationship with their parents, turbulent emotional equation with their fathers, economic hardship, professional frustration, and finally the serendipitous combination that forged a creative and personal bond which produced all the compelling stories that have given them a permanent place in the history of popular Hindi cinema.

There are two aspects that the series brings out movingly. One is their aggressive emotionality in the early years. Even as their struggle was riddled with crippling frustration, they never ceased being ambitious. Instead of despairing, they were angry. Angry at being denied what they believed they deserved. They nurtured that rage, promising themselves that they would get it. This is, doubtless, reflected in their male protagonists. And this could have had a lot to do with how they handled success when it came to them.

The other is the deeply genuine warmth in their bond when they were together. The series encourages us to imagine their closeness, mutual trust, Akhtar's adoration of his 10-year-older alter ego, their accelerating self-confidence, their exultation at the seemingly unstoppable success, their audacity, the Midas complex, and finally the sense of omnipotence. And then, the sobering pain in the aftermath of their separation. The nostalgia works.

However, what is seriously disappointing is the striking refusal to examine their work. After all, it was their writing that brought them lasting fame and is the reason for our interest in them. From the two-hour series, you come away with no understanding, no insight about them as writers, something that history should remember them for.

At least one episode could have been devoted to their work. We would love to know what inspired their iconic films, how they always constructed dramatically strong plots, why their character always had a deep, unresolved inner conflict that infused the narrative with dramatic energy, whether the dialogue needed much rewriting to get that surfeit of crackling loaded lines, if their writing was intuitive, what was their process of sourcing promising material. And, how much of their personalities fertilised their characters. Peppered with examples.

While much of their early work is worthy of study, *Deewaar* and *Sholay*, of course, stand in a class by themselves. For different reasons.

Sholay has an incomparably larger fanbase and that stands to reason. While its screenplay is problematically uneven, it offers every kind of entertainment element that an Indian audience seeks from a mainstream film. There is no way the writers consciously did this, but *Sholay* has each of the nine *rasas* (*navrasas*),



C R Sasikumar

which perhaps no other film has. Apart from being superbly directed with excellent support from every technical department, it has background music that enhances every sequence, viscerally riveting action, a deliciously unrepentant evil dacoit, a charismatic star cast and of course, absolutely terrific comedy with crackling lines. It had to become India's most loved film.

Deewaar's script occupies a near-mythical status for screenwriters. While it owes its inspiration to *Mother India* (the Oedipal obsession, the absent weak father) and *Ganga Jamuna* (the cop-brother having to kill the dacoit-brother who brought him up), it offers you the experience of a completely fresh story set in the urban industrial milieu of crime and unemployment.

Through the sheer consistency of Vijay's characterisation with its unwavering focus on the trauma of the cowardly father's betrayal, the writing never loses empathy for the torment that starts driving his self-destructive choices. In his relentless bid to over-compensate for his emotional pain and his mother's suffering, Vijay's impossible quest for inner peace finally impels him towards his own death. The character's partial resonance with the Karma archetype is unconscious but unmistakable. (Equally unmistakable is the resonance with its two writers and their angst!)

While several excellent films earlier had had strong dramatic plots with mythical underpinnings, none had the tightly structured screenplay, the sharpness of scene construction, and the wit and economy of dramatic dialogue of this one. And of course, there was the huge Bachchan factor that just exploded on screen. Compelling! But even the lay audience knew that the script was the thing. Without it, there wasn't much that even the great Bachchan could have done.

What Salim-Javed deserve credit for is inspiring dozens of young people to become film writers. All of us took up screenwriting because we wished to write like them. We wanted to write a *Deewaar*! While not flawless, its script continues to be one of the most important examples for aspiring Indian screenwriters to learn from.

Their example offers other important learnings too. One is that, ironically, the one thing that they yearned for with resoluteness

Given the enormous clout that they commanded, they could well have woven social issues into their plots. Instead, their stories pointedly steered clear of raising deeper questions that may leave the audience disturbed or thoughtful, thereby perhaps affecting the chances of commercial success. The only purpose of cinema, then, was to entertain, where entertainment was defined as an enjoyable experience. Unlike those whose work they admired, like Mehboob Khan, K Asif, Bimal Roy, Guru Dutt, who also worked with the mainstream form, Salim-Javed's films depoliticised cinema.

during their struggling days itself became the reason for their decline as writers when they achieved it. Success, the double-edged sword! While in the heavily commercialised world of popular cinema, the desire for success can be a valuable motivation, a blinkered pursuit of it can thwart one's originality and rapidly dilute creative authenticity.

It nudges one towards safe choices, pushing one into a formula groove. Intensely needy for success, the duo couldn't escape that. Unfortunately, in creative work, there cannot be a pre-set successful model. One must reinvent the wheel for every new idea.

Hence, a serious concern is that none of their films challenged the existing status quo — be it in terms of class, caste, communalism or gender. Their stories were about hurt heroes who, mostly by vigilante action, fought to avenge personal injustice inflicted by a bad individual. Or, of course, about intra-family conflict. Never was a comment on the system or the ideology that engendered that injustice or on the social inequality that makes exploitation inevitable allowed into the story. In other words, it never offered you a socio-political perspective, even in its sub-text.

Given the enormous clout that they commanded, they could well have woven social issues into their plots. Instead, their stories pointedly steered clear of raising deeper questions that may leave the audience disturbed or thoughtful, thereby perhaps affecting the chances of commercial success. The only purpose of cinema, then, was to entertain, where entertainment was defined as an enjoyable experience. Unlike those whose work they admired, like Mehboob Khan, K Asif, Bimal Roy, Guru Dutt, who also worked with the mainstream form, Salim-Javed's films depoliticised cinema.

The lasting impact that their work has left on Hindi cinema is still to be studied seriously, analysed and understood. And yet, what is clear is that Indian screenwriters will be grateful to them for bringing the script centre-stage. It's a position that writers of today are once again seeking to give it.

And yes, a personal thank you for *Deewaar*, of course!

Rajabali is a screenwriter, teacher and activist of the Screenwriters Association

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"The ICJ's call for Israel to evacuate all of its settlements and pay reparations to Palestinians for damages caused by the occupation should not be lightly dismissed. Israel can barely recognise the national existence of the Palestinians. But it is an admission that the world should encourage Israel to make." — **THE GUARDIAN**

A senior moment

Just recently, I turned 65 — it's a new way of feeling old



ROHINI NILEKANI

WHAT DO YOU think of if someone asks you to describe old age?

At a recent interaction with community service organisations (CSOs) working on longevity, I learnt that your answer would probably depend on how old you are. Younger respondents quickly conjure up words like walking stick, grey hair and nursing home. Financially secure seniors cite freedom from responsibility, travel, the joy of grandchildren, and spirituality. This difference in mental models is important to internalise as India turns from a young country with 50 per cent below the age of 25 years to a country with the largest population of elderly in the whole world.

We are still struggling to reap the demographic dividend of our broad youth base. Soon, we will have to figure out how hundreds of millions of senior citizens can contribute to and be cared for in our society.

Just recently, I turned 65. So did lakhs of other people in India. Sixty-five seems different to me — a new way of feeling old. The country's average lifespan is 67.2 years. I am sharply aware of both my mortality and my privileges. I can access the best medical care, the best fitness options and nutrition. I can continue to write and work actively. I meditate, I pray. I stay positive with the blessing of many friendships, and a loving family. These are all things that global research has proven to produce better outcomes as one ages.

So, I am determined to make this the best decade of my life yet. To be part of a positive revolution in the mindset on ageing. To give at least as much as I receive; to cultivate and spread faith in human innovation and to nurture gratitude for the miracle of life.

This is what older people want to do for themselves and society — but not everyone gets to do it. In India, 40 per cent of older adults experience poverty, compared to less than 10 per cent of the general population. Only 14 per cent can use the Internet, and less than 5 per cent report being part of a social organisation. The elderly are more likely to be female, have much less education and live more in rural areas. More than one in three seniors still do not have the luxury of retiring, and many continue to do unpaid work, 65 per cent of those in agriculture and allied activities. Those who do retire can feel a sudden lack of purpose, a loneliness. With the rapid nuclearisation of families, in just 20 years, an estimated 80 million elderly will live alone or with just a spouse.

There are reams of data on how much will change in our demographics, and what we can reasonably predict about the

quality of life and care, social security, and public amenities. We can share the estimates of mental health disorders among the elderly.

But data do not tell the whole story, or the only story. The good news is that samaaj-based institutions have been very active in India for decades. HelpAge India was set up in 1978 and works with two million elderly, actively advocating better state intervention. Since 1999, the Agewell Foundation has worked with a network of 80,000 volunteers across 768 districts to reach 25,000 seniors daily. Carers Worldwide aims to reduce the burden of 2,00,000 unpaid senior caregivers. The list goes on. These organisations do not just want to help seniors, they want to change the narrative on ageing. Grey Shades showcases many intrepid seniors who are giving back gracefully. Like army veteran and psychiatrist Rajinder Singh, 91, who is setting up a third mental well-being centre to address addiction in young people in Punjab. Like Harbhajan Kaur, 99, who realised her ambition to earn some income by becoming a cooking sensation at the age of 90. CSOs are trying to normalise these exceptions so that longevity and health spans are reimaged in a society that takes the elderly for granted. It shouldn't. One in three seniors want to actively volunteer and contribute to their communities if they can find the opportunity.

Can India take the lead in redefining what it means to be an older adult? Can we do it in time for the seismic shift in our demographics? It depends. So far, the state is only just beginning to wake up. Less than 5 per cent of senior citizens get any reliable social security payments or services. Some policies, including the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 are simply unimplementable. There is a long way to go.

The private sector has still not tapped the potential of senior citizens to keep contributing productively. Nor has it stepped in to provide better living and recreational facilities, even though the "silver economy" is currently pegged at \$7 billion. We have nothing like the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), a strong advocacy body with 38 million members that markets must reckon with in providing senior citizen products and services.

It is the society that must lead the way. And private philanthropy is critical to kickstart the multi-sectoral innovation we need.

At 65, I often turn to the Beatles song that captured the angst of a whole generation. "When I get older losing my hair, many years from now... Will you still need me, will you still feed me, when I'm sixty-four?"

The country will soon have to answer that question to hundreds of millions of folks, on whose shoulders it now stands.

The writer is co-founder, EkStep, chairperson, Rohini Nilekani Philanthropies and author of Samaaj, Sarkaar, Bazaar: A Citizen First Approach



RAM RAJA
BY RAM MADHAV

No polity for the young

Failure to draw youth leaders without dynastic clout remains a political deficit

"YOUR CHILDREN ARE not your children," wrote the Lebanese American writer and poet Khalil Gibran in his poem 'On Children'. "They," he wrote, "are the sons and daughters of life's longing for itself." In principle, no one disagrees with this idea. Gibran's poem became the basis for the platitudes that many routinely offer about the "future belonging to the youth". Franklin Roosevelt had famously said that "we cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future".

Today, however, these words sound somewhat patronising. The reality is that not just the future, but the present is in the hands of the youth. There was a time, not long ago, when our industry, businesses, social organisations and even cultural activity were being led by the not-so-young. But things have changed in the last couple of decades. The advent of Industry 3.0 has brought the power of young people to the fore. With technology and innovation becoming the key to progress, young leadership is making its impact in every field of public life, be it industry, R&D, trade and commerce and even sunrise sectors like social media. They are part of the digital revolution, NGOs and social movements.

There are several success stories in business and industry. Larry Page was just 25 when he founded Google. Mark Zuckerberg was not even 20 when he founded Facebook. Unlike the last generation business czars like John D Rockefeller and George Soros who be-

came rich and famous in their 50s, entrepreneurs like Elon Musk entered into sectors like e-vehicles in their 30s and revolutionised them. India, too, has several such examples of young people making it big in industry, trade and commerce. The IT industry — which has brought the country fame and money — is dominated by young people.

Yet, globally, there is one area where youngsters struggle to make headway — politics. Almost 50 per cent of the world's population is below 30 years. In countries such as India, that number is almost 60 per cent. Yet, according to the data provided by the UN Secretary General's Envoy on Youth, less than 2 per cent of the elected legislators are young. In 2016, the UN took this up as a challenge and launched a campaign, "Not Too Young To Run". Several UN bodies like UNDP, OHCHR, and Inter-Parliamentary Union joined this campaign whose objective was to "raise awareness about the issue of age discrimination and promote and expand the rights of young people to run for public office".

This remains a serious challenge in the developing world too. Even in a vibrant democracy like India, the average age of elected representatives to state legislatures and Parliament remains discouraging. Despite the massive youth bulge in the country, the average age of the just-elected members of the 18th Lok Sabha is 56 years, as per the analysis of PRS Legislative Research group. Although down from 59 years in the 17th Lok Sabha, these numbers still do not

represent the predominantly young nation. PRS concluded that only 11 per cent of MPs are below 40 years of age, and 38 per cent are between 41 and 55. Nearly half of the MPs are above 55 years in age.

Not that efforts were not made to bring in young leaders, but they resulted in promoting nepotism and dynastic politics. Sadly, this politics which plagues almost all the major parties, barring the BJP and the Left parties, began long ago during the Independence movement. Belonging to a political family should not be a stumbling block for a capable leader to rise in public life, but what often happens is that family credentials, not capability, determine one's rise. From Tamil Nadu to Jammu Kashmir, this predominance of political families denies many capable, clean and committed youngsters a chance to enter and grow in public life.

This bad practice began during the freedom movement when Motilal Nehru was accused of using his political and economic clout to influence the Congress leadership in promoting his son, Jawaharlal Nehru was a capable leader but what worked in his favour to catapult him to the president of the All India Congress Committee at a relatively young age of 40 years was his lineage. After Independence, this tradition continued in Congress, with Indira Gandhi rising to become party president in her early 40s. Whether Jawaharlal Nehru wanted it or not is an ongoing debate in academic circles be-

cause his biographers give both versions — his support and opposition — in this matter. But since then, Congress essentially became a fiefdom of the Nehru-Gandhi family. The same is the plight of many regional parties in the country.

Prime minister Narendra Modi highlighted this irony in his Independence Day address this year calling "parivaarvad" (nepotism) and "jaativedha" (casteism) as the evils to be rooted out. "It is essential to free our political landscape from the grip of dynastic rule. Our mission is to empower a new generation of leaders — one lakh young individuals who don't have any political legacy in their families. We want to see young people without any family connections in politics to step forward, lead and represent the people," he said, insisting that the youth will change the definition of politics in the times to come.

He reiterated it again during his monthly *Mann ki Baat* radio address this Sunday stating that "many youths are ready to enter politics. They only need the right opportunity and guidance".

As pointed out by PM Modi, the youth of the country are ready. Is the political class ready? The joke is that leaders do not talk about younger ones to come forward until their own sons and daughters are ready to take over. Can this mindset change?

The writer, president, India Foundation, is with the BJP. Views are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PRIORITISE JUSTICE

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'The CM's duty' (IE, August 30). The West Bengal bandh called by the BJP and the violence that preceded it were clearly attempts by the party to gain political mileage out of the horrendous Kolkata tragedy. While it is legitimate for the medics to hit the streets demanding early action, the BJP rushing there under some banner or the other is nothing but politicking of the worst kind. The skeletons tumbling out of the medical college administration as the CBI investigation progresses are enormous, placing the responsibility on the state administration. But the violent protests and the bandh have given Mamata Banerjee an excuse to dodge responsibility and turn it into a political debate.

Khokan Das, Kolkata

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'The CM's duty' (IE, August 30). The frequency of heinous crimes is very disturbing. Political parties immediately jump in to indulge in scathing criticism or covering up depending on the status of the accused. In the RG Kar rape and murder case, all legal requirements from FIR, preserving the crime scene, informing the parents, postmortem and cremation etc were botched up. The CM should have ensured justice for the victim's family despite the prevailing political turmoil. She should focus on getting justice delivered without delay.

Subhash Vaid, New Delhi

A COMPANY PROBLEM

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Segregation is no answer vs Relief of escaping Mr Space Hog' (IE, August 30). It is imperative that all passengers feel safe when flying. Airlines might have to become more selective and aware in assigning seats to women. However, does this solve the long-term issue of women being able to freely travel? Segregation as a solution is an example of where society has failed. While some welcomed the move, it did attract a fair share of criticism as well with people questioning if creating more of a gender divide is the way to an equal and safe world for women. This move is the company's attempt at abdicating the responsibility of women's safety.

Sanjay Chopra, Mohali

BAIL, NOT JAIL

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Court's next step' (IE, August 30). ED's invocation of PMLA for corruption cases has the effect of turning on its head the well-settled canon of criminal jurisprudence expressed through aphorisms: "Innocent until proven guilty" has become "guilty until proven innocent". The Supreme Court ruling in *Vijay Madanlal Choudhary vs Union Of India* made bail nearly impossible under PMLA provisions. Recent SC rulings affirming the legal principle of "bail not jail" pave the way for the review of the Vijay Madanlal verdict.

LR Murmu, New Delhi

E-mail:- aceejpaur2.pwd-rj/acezoneti@yahoo.com

कार्यालय अति. मुख्य अभियंता, सा.नि.वि., सम्भाग-द्वितीय, जयपुर

पी.डब्ल्यू.डी. कैम्पस, जैकब रोड, जयपुर कब के सामने, जयपुर

फोन:- 0141-2226537, एक्स-299 फैक्स: 0141-2226537

क्रमांक-1358

अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना संख्या-07/पीएमजीएसई/2024-25 दिनांक: 22/8/24

अनवर एवं जयपुर जिले में ग्रामीण सड़कों के नवीनीकरण कार्य के कुल 06 पैकेज हेतु चयुक्त निविदादाताओं द्वारा दिनांक 06.09.2024 को दोपहर 12.00 बजे तक अल्पकालीन निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। अल्पकालीन निविदा से संबंधित अलग विवरण राज् का उपमंत्र चर्चेत http://eproc.punjab.gov.in, http://sppp.rajjasthan.gov.in एवं निम्नांकित वेबसाइट http://pwd.rajjasthan.gov.in, http://pmjsgstendersraj.gov.in पर देखे जा सकते हैं। उपरान्त की अनुमति लागत रुपये 942.87 लाख है।

S.N	UBN	S.NO	UBN Code
1	PWD2425WSOB04454	4	PWD2425WSOB04505
2	PWD2425WSOB04455	5	PWD2425WSOB04485
3	PWD2425WSOB04450	6	PWD2425WSOB04490

हस्ता./...
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता
सा.नि.वि. सम्भाग
द्वितीय, जयपुर

DIPR/7863 P

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.
Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall Patiala-147001.
Corporate Identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in (Contact No. 96461-01116)

Tender Enquiry No. - 07/G.C./T.S./PSPCL/2024-25 Dated: 31.08.2024
Dy.CE/Grid Construction, open. PAU Gate no.1, PSPCL, Ludhiana invites
Open e-Tender for outsourcing of Augmentation of Power Transformers
related works on partial turnkey mode under RDSS scheme under Grid
Construction Division Patiala under Grid Construction Circle, Ludhiana. For
detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to
<https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 31.08.2024 (01:00 PM onwards).
Note: Corrigendum and amendments, if any, will be published online at
<https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD
(Regd Off: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala)
Corporate Identification Number (CIN) U40109PB2010SGC033813 Website: www.pspcl.in,
(Dy. CE/Hydel Project PSPCL, Patiala Contact Number. 9646118754)

Tender Enquiry No. 324/HPs/ED-I/RSDD-138 Dated: 28.08.2024
Dy. CE/ Hydel Projects, PSPCL, Shed A-3, Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala
Invites E-Tender for Supply, Erection, testing and commissioning of 4 no.
Triple screw positive displacement complete pump with motor of Gov. &
MIV PP sets for replacement of PP sets of unit no. 1 at RSD Power Project
Shahpurkandi.
For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to
<https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 05.09.2024 onwards.
NOTE: Corrigendum and Addendum, if any will be published online at
<https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>
No 37188/PB C 634/24

Tender Cancellation Notice
Urban Development and Housing Department, Govt. of Bihar
1st Floor, Vikas Bhawan,
New Secretariat, patna-800015
(Tel: 0612-2215580, Fax: 2217059 Email: urbansec-bih@nic.in)

Tender Cancellation Notice P.R. No.-006727 (Urban) 2023-24

13/नवंबर/2024/0/SBM-22/2024/2690

Due to some unavoidable reason the Tender of "Selection of Consultancy firm for Obtaining Environmental Clearance for Solid Waste Management in 32 ULBs of Bihar" (PR No.- 006727 (Urban) 2023-24) is being cancelled.

For further details please visit : www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar Deputy Secretary
Urban Development and Housing Department
PR-007268 (B & C) 2024-25 Govt. of Bihar

नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।

बिहार सरकार

प्राचार्य का कार्यालय

अनुग्रह नारायण मगध मेडिकल कालेज गया

निविदा सूचना

वित्तीय वर्ष 2024-2025 हेतु अनुग्रह नारायण मगध मेडिकल कालेज,गया के विभिन्न विभागों एवं छात्रावासों के लिये फर्नीचर, अलम्रीरा इत्यादि का कय हेतु निबंधित फर्म/ निर्माता/ आपूर्तिकर्ता/ प्राधिकृत बिक्रेता से मुहरबन्द लिफाफे में सीलड निविदा राष्ट्रीय समाचार में प्रथम प्रकाशनी की तिथि से 21 दिनों के अन्दर केवल निबंधित /स्पीड पोस्ट के माध्यम से कार्यावधि 10:00 पूर्वाह्न से संघ्या 5:00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है। विलम्ब से प्राप्त निविदा पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा। निविदा दो तरह की होगी। (क)कृतकनीकी निविदा (ख) वित्तीय निविदा। दोनों निविदा अलग-अलग लिफाफे में सीलड कर पुनः उसे बड़े लिफाफे में सीलड कर उस पर किस मद के लिए निविदा दिया जा रहा है, अंकित कर प्राचार्य, अनुग्रह नारायण मगध मेडिकल कालेज, गया को भेजना होगा। निविदा टंकित/ कम्प्युटराईज होना चाहिए। काट-कूट एवं हस्तलिखित वाले निविदा पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा। निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि को अवकाश की स्थिति में अगले कार्य दिवस तक निविदा प्राप्त किया जायेगा। निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि के अगले दिन निविदा कय समिति के द्वारा खोली जायेगी। उक्त तिथि को अवकाश की स्थिति में अगली कार्य दिवस को निविदा खोली जायेगी। निविदा खोलने के समय निविदादाता स्वयं या उनके प्राधिकृत प्रतिनिधि उपस्थित रह सकते हैं। इसके लिये अलग से सूचना नहीं दी जायेगी। बैठक में भाग नहीं लेने वाले निविदादाता के किसी भी प्रकार की कोई शिकायत पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा। नियम एवं शर्त की प्रति एवं कय की जाने वाले फर्नीचर, अलम्रीरा इत्यादि की सूची निविदा प्रकाशन के पश्चात प्राचार्य कार्यालय, अनुग्रह नारायण मगध मेडिकल कॉलेज, गया में कार्यालय अवधि में 1000(एक हजार रुपये)मात्र का बैंक ड्राफ्ट मूल में प्राचार्य, अनुग्रह नारायण मगध मेडिकल कॉलेज, गया के पदनाम से प्लेज्ड हो जमा करने पर प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। जिसे लौटाया नहीं जायेगा। निविदा शुल्क जमा करने वाले का ही निविदा कय समिति के समक्ष रखा जायेगा। निविदा की विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए www.anmmmc.ac.in पर देखें अथवा कार्यालय से सम्पर्क करें। उक्त सूचना www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar पर भी देखी जा सकती है।

प्राचार्य

अनुग्रह नारायण मगध मेडिकल कॉलेज, गया

PR. No. 007046 (Health) 2024-25

नशामुक्त हो जाए बिहार, सुरक्षित रहे घर परिवार।

Govt. of Bihar

Public Health Engineering Department

Public Health Engineering Division, Siwan

TENDER NIT No-08/2024-25 O&M-PRD

National Competitive Bidding

(Through e-procurement mode on www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in)

1	Designation and Address of Advertiser	Executive Engineer P.H. Division, Siwan.
2	Date of issue of Tender Notice	28.08.2024
3	Period of sale (downloading) of tender Bid Document	06.09.24 to 16.09.24 up to 15:00 Hrs. through www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in
4	Date, time & place of pre-bid meeting	09.09.24 at 11.30 hrs. hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer of concerned P. H. Division
5	Last date and time of receipt (uploading) of tender	16.09.2024 up to 16:00Hrs on www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in
6	Last date and time of submission of hard copy of EMD (in original).	17.09.2024 up to 15:00 hrs in the office of: A. Executive Engineer of concerned P.H. Division B. Superintending Engineer of concerned P.H. Circle C. Zonal chief Engineer of concerned Zone
7	Date and time of opening of technical bid	17.09.2024 at 17:00Hrs on www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in
8	Date and time of opening of financial bid	To be informed later after the approval of technical bid.

9. Details of works:						
Group No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (in Lakh)	Amount of Earnest Money (in Lakh)	Cost of Tender Document (non-refundable) in Rs.	BSEDC Bid Processing Fee (in Rs.)	Completion Period (in months)
1	BLOCK- BASANTPUR & BHAGWANPUR HAT	813.41	16.27	10,000.00	As per eproc2	48 Months
2	BLOCK- SIWAN & DARAUDDIN	811.23	16.23	10,000.00	As per eproc2	48 Months
3	BLOCK- GOREWAKOTHI, LAKADI NABIGANJ & MAHARAJGANJ	1461.52	24.62	10,000.00	As per eproc2	48 Months
4	BLOCK- SIWAN & HUSSAINGANJ	822.11	16.45	10,000.00	As per eproc2	48 Months
5	BLOCK- RAGHUNATHPUR, ZIRADEI & HASANPURA	1215.76	22.16	10,000.00	As per eproc2	48 Months
6	BLOCK- BARHARIYA & PACHRUKEHI	1296.23	22.97	10,000.00	As per eproc2	48 Months
7	BLOCK- MAIRWA, NAUTAN & ANDAR	774.26	15.49	10,000.00	As per eproc2	48 Months
8	BLOCK- GUTHANI & DARAUDDIN	778.61	15.56	10,000.00	As per eproc2	48 Months

For further details please visit : www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar

Executive Engineer
Public Health Division, Siwan

PR. No. 007048 (PHED) 2024-25

नशे से बनानी दूरी है, क्योंकि परिवार जरूरी है।

ARMY INSTITUTE OF LAW
SECTOR-68, MOHALI – 160062
Tele: 0172-5095336-38, E-mail: info@ail.ac.in

SITUATION VACANT - OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT

Type of Post - Contractual

(3 years Contract, including one year on probation)

Apply on prescribed form available on the Institute website by **14 Sep 2024**, alongwith copies of academic and experience certificates. Only shortlisted candidates will be called for interview. For more details visit College website www.ail.ac.in

Principal

कार्यालय प्रधान महाप्रबन्धक (अभि०)-आर
उपग्रो राज्य औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण
ए-1/4, बल्लभपुर, कानपुर

क्रमांक	कार्य का नाम	टेंडर आईडी
1	Construction of 1x10 MVA, 33/11 KV Sub Station Gopalpur-II under AILM 3.0 (2024-25) at IA, Sikandrabad (Bulandshahar).	2024_SIDC_944437.1
2	Construction of 1x10 MVA, 33/11 KV Sub Station Jokhabad-II under AILM 3.0 (2024-25) at IA, Sikandrabad (Bulandshahar).	2024_SIDC_944446.1
3	Construction of 1x10 MVA, 33/11 KV Sub Station in Appeal Park Sector D-1 under AILM 3.0 (2024-25) at IA, TDS City, Ghaziabad.	2024_SIDC_944473.1
4	Construction of 1x10 MVA, 33/11 Sub Station in Sector A-1 under AILM 3.0 (2024-25) at IA, TDS City, Ghaziabad.	2024_SIDC_944506.1
5	Construction of 33/11 KV Power/Feeder Line for 33/11 (1x10 MVA) Sub Station Jokhabad-II under AILM 3.00 (2024-25) at IA, TDS City, Ghaziabad.	2024_SIDC_944537.1
6	Construction of 33/11 KV Power/Feeder Line for 33/11 (1x10 MVA) Sub Station Sector Apperal Park under AILM 3.00 (2024-25) at IA, TDS City, Ghaziabad.	2024_SIDC_944586.1
7	Construction of 33/11 KV Power/Feeder Line for 33/11 (1x10 MVA) Sub Station in Sector A-1 under AILM 3.00 (2024-25) at IA, TDS City, Ghaziabad.	2024_SIDC_944586.1
8	Supply & Installation of High Mast Lighting System and Street Light Network System in Dark Zone at IA, Mathura Side-B	2024_SIDC_944591.1

उपरोक्त निविदाये दिनांक 09.08.2024 से दिनांक 29.08.2024 तक अपराह्न की जाती की एवं दिनांक 30.08.2024 को खोली जानी है, अपरिहार्य कारणों से एवं उक्त आमंत्रित निविदाओं में निविदा प्राप्त अप्राप्त करने की दिनांक 07.09.2024 तक विचारित की जाती है। यह निविदाएं अब दिनांक 09.09.2024 को अपराह्न 04:00 बजे खोली जायेगी। शेष नियम व शर्तें पत्राचार रहेंगी।

उप महाप्रबन्धक (रि०) यु०, उपग्रो राज्य औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण, कानपुर

बिहार सरकार

बिहार चिकित्सा आधारभूत संरचना निगम लिमिटेड, पटना

प्रेस विज्ञापित

सात निश्चय योजना अंतर्गत जिला अस्तरिया में जी०एन०एम०, ए०एन०एम० एवं पारामेडिकल प्रशिक्षण संस्थान-सह-छात्रावास भवन का निर्माण कार्य का एकरारनामा संवेदक मेसर्स श्रीनाथ बिल्डर्स एण्ड को० प्रा० लि०, गुवाहटी के साथ दिनांक-24.03.2017 को किया गया था। संवेदक श्रीनाथ बिल्डर्स एण्ड को० प्रा० लि०, गुवाहटी द्वारा विषयांकित परियोजना का निर्माण कार्य ससमय पूर्ण नहीं करने के कारण एकरारनामा को सुसंश्रित कंडिका को अनुसंधान उक्त एकरारनामा को Risk & Cost पर Rescind करते हुए निगम के पत्रांक-3859 दिनांक-06.08.2024 द्वारा संवेदक को पत्र निर्गत करने की तिथि से तीन (03) वर्षों के लिए कलौकृत किया गया है। संवेदक द्वारा वर्तमान स्थिति तक किये गये वास्तविक कार्य की अंतिम मापी दिनांक-13.08.2024 एवं दिनांक-22.08.2024 पूर्वान्न 11:00 बजे को निर्धारित की गयी थी। परंतु संवेदक द्वारा उक्त मापी कार्य हेतु उपस्थित दर्ज नहीं की गयी है।

एतद् द्वारा संवेदक श्रीनाथ बिल्डर्स एण्ड को० प्रा० लि०, गुवाहटी को इस प्रेस विज्ञापित के माध्यम से अंतिम बार पुनः सूचित किया जाता है कि दिनांक-04.09.2024 पूर्वान्न 11:00 बजे को अंतिम मापी हेतु आप स्वयं अथवा अपने प्रतिनिधि की उपस्थिति सुनिश्चित करेंगे। आपके अनुपस्थित रहने पर भी विषयांकित योजना का सम्पादन कार्य की मापी परियोजना से संबंधित निगम के अभियंता की उपस्थिति में की जाएगी, जो आपके द्वारा भी मान्य समझी जायेगी एवं भविष्य में इस संबंध में आपका कोई भी दावा मान्य नहीं होगा।

उक्त सूचना www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar पर भी देखी जा सकती है।

मुख्य महाप्रबंधक (परि०)

PR. No. 007267 (B & C) 2024-25

नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।

बिहार सरकार

प्राचार्य का कार्यालय

अनुग्रह नारायण मगध मेडिकल कॉलेज गया

पुर्न निविदा सूचना

वित्तीय वर्ष 2024-2025 हेतु अनुग्रह नारायण मगध मेडिकल कालेज,गया के विभिन्न विभागों के लिये रसायन एवं ग्लासवेयर का कय हेतु निबंधित फर्म/ निर्माता/ आपूर्तिकर्ता/ प्राधिकृत बिक्रेता से मोहरबन्द लिफाफे में सीलड निविदा राष्ट्रीय समाचार में प्रथम प्रकाशनी की तिथि से 21 दिनों के अन्दर केवल निबंधित /स्पीड पोस्ट के माध्यम से कार्यावधि 10:00 पूर्वाह्न से संघ्या 5:00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है। विलम्ब से प्राप्त निविदा पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा। निविदा दो तरह की होगी- (क)कृतकनीकी निविदा (ख) वित्तीय निविदा। दोनों निविदा अलग-अलग लिफाफे में सीलड कर पुनः उसे बड़े लिफाफे में सीलड कर उस पर किस मद के लिए निविदा दिया जा रहा है, अंकित कर प्राचार्य, अनुग्रह नारायण मगध मेडिकल कालेज, गया को भेजना होगा। निविदा प्रिंटेड/ कम्प्युटराईज होना चाहिए। काट-कूट एवं लिप लेपन वाले निविदा पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा। निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि को अवकाश की स्थिति में अगले कार्य दिवस तक निविदा प्राप्त किया जायेगा। निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि के अगले दिन निविदा कय समिति के द्वारा खोली जायेगी। उक्त तिथि को अवकाश की स्थिति में अगली कार्य दिवस को निविदा खोली जायेगी। निविदा खोलने के समय निविदादाता स्वयं या उनके अधिकृत प्रतिनिधि उपस्थित रह सकते हैं। जिसके लिये उन्हें अलग से सूचना नहीं दी जायेगी। बैठक में भाग नहीं लेने वाले निविदादाता के किसी भी प्रकार की कोई शिकायत पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा। निविदादाता को निविदा के साथ सत्यांकित राशि के रूप में रु० 50000/- (पचास हजार रुपये) मात्र का किसी भी राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक का बैंक ड्राफ्ट अथवा एन० एस० सी० जो प्राचार्य, अनुग्रह नारायण मगध मेडिकल कॉलेज, गया के पदनाम से हो संलग्न करना अनिवार्य होगा। नियम एवं शर्त की प्रति एवं कय की जाने वाले रसायन एवं ग्लासवेयर की सूची निविदा प्रकाशन के पश्चात प्राचार्य कार्यालय, अनुग्रह नारायण मगध मेडिकल कॉलेज, गया में कार्यालय अवधि में 1000(एक हजार रुपये)मात्र का बैंक ड्राफ्ट मूल में प्राचार्य, अनुग्रह नारायण मगध मेडिकल कॉलेज, गया के पदनाम से प्लेज्ड हो जमा करने पर प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। जिसे लौटाया नहीं जायेगा। निविदा शुल्क जमा करने वाले का ही निविदा कय समिति के समक्ष रखा जायेगा। निविदा की विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए www.anmmmc.ac.in पर देखें अथवा कार्यालय से कार्यावधि में सम्पर्क करें। किसी भी विवाद का न्यायिक क्षेत्र गया व्यवहार न्यायालय, गया होगा। उक्त सूचना www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar पर भी देखी जा सकती है।

प्राचार्य

अनुग्रह नारायण मगध मेडिकल कालेज, गया

PR. No. 007050 (Health) 2024-25

नशे की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार।

बिहार सरकार

प्राचार्य का कार्यालय

अनुग्रह नारायण मगध मेडिकल कालेज गया

पुर्न निविदा सूचना

वित्तीय वर्ष 2024-2025 हेतु अनुग्रह नारायण मगध मेडिकल कालेज,गया के विभिन्न विभागों एवं छात्रावासों के लिये विविध सामग्री के कय हेतु निबंधित फर्म/ निर्माता/ आपूर्तिकर्ता/ प्राधिकृत बिक्रेता से मोहरबन्द लिफाफे में सीलड निविदा राष्ट्रीय समाचार में प्रथम प्रकाशन की तिथि से 21 दिनों के अन्दर केवल निबंधित /स्पीडपोस्ट के माध्यम से कार्यावधि 10:00 पूर्वाह्न से संघ्या 5:00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है। विलम्ब से प्राप्त निविदा पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा। निविदा दो तरह की होगी- (क)कृतकनीकी निविदा (ख) वित्तीय निविदा। दोनों निविदा अलग-अलग लिफाफे में सीलड कर पुनः उसे बड़े लिफाफे में सीलड कर उस पर किस मद के लिए निविदा दिया जा रहा है, अंकित कर प्राचार्य, अनुग्रह नारायण मगध मेडिकल कालेज,गया को भेजना होगा। निविदा प्रिंटेड/ कम्प्युटराईज होना चाहिए। काट-कूट एवं लिप लेपन वाले निविदा पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा। निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि को अवकाश की स्थिति में अगले कार्य दिवस तक निविदा प्राप्त किया जायेगा। निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि के अगले दिन निविदा कय समिति के द्वारा खोली जायेगी। उक्त तिथि को अवकाश की स्थिति में अगली कार्य दिवस को निविदा प्राप्त किया जायेगा। निविदा खोलने के समय निविदादाता स्वयं या उनके प्राधिकृत प्रतिनिधि उपस्थित रह सकते हैं। जिसके लिये उन्हें अलग से सूचना नहीं दी जायेगी। बैठक में भाग नहीं लेने वाले निविदादाता के किसी भी प्रकार की कोई शिकायत पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा। कय की जाने वाले विविध सामग्री इत्यादि की सूची एवं नियम शर्त की प्रति निविदा प्रकाशन के पश्चात प्राचार्य कार्यालय, अनुग्रह नारायण मगध मेडिकल कॉलेज, गया में कार्यालय अवधि में 1000(एक हजार रुपये)मात्र का बैंक ड्राफ्ट मूल में प्राचार्य, अनुग्रह नारायण मगध मेडिकल कॉलेज, गया के पदनाम से प्लेज्ड हो जमा करने वाले का ही निविदा कय समिति के समक्ष रखा जायेगा। निविदा की विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए www.anmmmc.ac.in पर देखें अथवा कार्यावधि में कार्यालय से सम्पर्क करें। उक्त सूचना www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar पर भी देखी जा सकती है।

प्राचार्य

अनुग्रह नारायण मगध मेडिकल कॉलेज, गया

PR. No. 007049 (Health) 2024-25

नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय

ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, गुमला।

rdsgumla123@gmail.com.

शुद्धि पत्र

इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक 943 दिनांक 28.08.2024 द्वारा ई०-टेंडरिंग अति अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या-RDD/SD/GUMLA/15/2024-25 जिसका पी०आर०(PR) सं०-333932 Rural Development (24-25)#D है, में अपरिहार्य कारणों से निम्न संशोधन किया जाता है। ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि एवं समय - दिनांक 06.09.2024 से दिनांक 18.09.2024 को अपराह्न 5:00 बजे के स्थान पर दिनांक 06.09.2024 से दिनांक 12.09.2024 को अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक एवं ई-निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय 20.09.2024 अपराह्न 2:00 बजे के स्थान पर 13.09.2024 अपराह्न 2:00 बजे तक पढ़ा जाय। शेष नियम यथावत् रहेगी।

कार्यपालक अभियंता
ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल,
गुमला।

PR 334200 Rural Development(24-25)D

PROVISION OF GRID CONNECTED ROOFTOP SOLAR POWER PLANT

Tender No.: RNY-EL-T-07-2024-25.
E-tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following work.
Name of Work: At Rangiya Division: Provision of 2932 KWp Grid connected rooftop Solar Power Plant including 5 years AMC/CAMC at 42 nos station, different service buildings and 204 nos. LC gates in Rangiya Division. Tender Value: ₹13,29,02,348.37; Earnest Money: ₹9,14,500.00. E-tender will be closed at 13:00 hrs. on 27-09-2024. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender is available at www.treps.gov.in

Sr. DEE/Rangiya
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Engineering Station, Nalbari & Tezpur

GUJARAT MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of Gujarat Undertaking)
Regd. Office : Block No. 14/1,
Dr. Jivraj Mehta Bhavan, Sector-10, Gandhinagar
☎ 079-23250767, 23250766, 23257698

Regarding Training

GMSCL has undertaken entry of details pertaining to supplies received against purchase orders placed with biennial rate contract holders on e-Aushadhi portal. GMSCL is looking forward to provide facility to rate contract holder companies to upload GLP/NABL reports online on e-Aushadhi portal. In this regard, we have organized a meeting/training session with suppliers and authorized dealers of relevant items as described below for discussion and suggestion.

Meeting / Training

The meeting is scheduled on 11.09.2024 at 11:00 am at Committee Room of GMSCL, Gandhinagar. Only authorized representatives of the companies with valid authority letter will be allowed to attend the meeting

INF/868/2024-25 MANAGING DIRECTOR

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, जामताड़ा

ई-अल्पकालीन पुर्ननिविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

ई०-अल्पकालीन पुर्ननिविदा संख्या :- 05/RJ/2024-25/RWD/JAMTARA दिनांक-29.08.2024

कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमंडल, जामताड़ा द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र० सं०	आईडीएनटी फिकेचन संख्या	कार्य का नाम	प्राकलित राशि (रुपये में) अंक में	अक्षर में	कार्य समाप्ति की तिथि/ अवधि
1	RWD/JAMTARA/ 15/RJ/2024-25	पी.डब्ल्यू.डी. झरामपाड़ा गाँव से उदलबनी गाँव भावा बेवा-धनबाद तक पथ निर्माण कार्य - 2.210 कि०मी० (प्रखंड- जामताड़ा)	22854400.00	दो करोड़ अठाईस लाख चौवन हजार चार सौ मात्र	12 माह

2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि : 02.09.2024
3. ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय :- 11.09.2024 अपराह्न 5:00 बजे।
4. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय: 13.09.2024 अपराह्न 3:30 बजे।
5. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता:- कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमंडल, जामताड़ा, बॉक्स-नं०, प्रथम तल्ला, कन्साईड बिल्डिंग, जामताड़ा, पिन-815351
6. विस्तृत जानकारी के लिये वेबसाइट tarkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है। कार्यपालक अभियंता
ग्रामाकांठि, कार्य प्रमंडल, जामताड़ा

PR 334142 Rural Work Department(24-25)D

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

e-Procurement Notice

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

1. The Executive Engineer, Jhandutta Division HPPWD, Jhandutta (H.P.) on behalf of Governor of H.P. invites online bids on percentage rate, in electronic tendering system, in 2 Cover System for the under mentioned work from the eligible and approved contractors/Firms registered with HPPWD Department.

Sr. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	EMD	Cost of Tender	Time limit
1.	Widening, strengthening and Up-gradation of road from Bagchhal to Talai via Kalot Road from Km. 0/00 to 37/120 (section from Km. 0/00 to 19/00 from Bagchhal to Kalot) (SH- Cuting for improvement / widening, C/o R-wall, B/walls, Edge wall, Wire Crates, C/o Cross-Drainage work, M/T works, C/o V-Shape drain & parapets in Km. 2/00 to 5/00).	46737857/-	935000/-	5000/-	Six Month

2. **Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission:** The Bid document is available online and bid should be submitted in online mode on website <https://hptenders.gov.in>. Bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). "Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in HPPWD may obtain the same from the website: <https://hptenders.gov.in>. Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. Bidders already possessing the digital signature issued from authorized as can use the same in this tender.

3. **Key Dates:**

1.	Date of Online Publication	03/09/2024 10:00 HRS
2.	Document Download Start and End Date	03/09/2024 10:30 HRS upto 13/09/2024 10:30 HRS
3.	Bid Submission Start and End Date	03/09/2024 10:30 HRS upto 13/09/2024 10:30 HRS
4.	Physical Submission of EMD and Cost of Tender Document.	13/09/2024 upto 10:45 HRS
5.	Date of Technical Bid opening	13/09/2024 11:00 HRS

4. **TENDER DETAILS:**
The Tender Documents shall be uploaded online in 2 Cover:
Cover 1: shall contain scanned copies of all "Technical Documents/ Elig



@ieExplained
#ExpressExplained

If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to explained@indianexpress.com

Vistara will soon be Air India: how will merger affect flyers?

Not much change in terms of service; bookings and loyalty programme will be automatically transferred

SUKALP SHARMA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

THE DECADE-OLD Vistara, an airline reputed for its excellent product and service quality, will fly into the sunset in November after its operational merger with the Tata group's flagship airline Air India.

An announcement by both the airlines on Friday said that Vistara will continue to operate flights only till November 11. After this date, all Vistara flights will be operated by Air India. How is the merger likely to affect Vistara customers?

EXPLAINED AVIATION

What will happen to Vistara flight bookings?

Nothing will change for customers booked on Vistara flights till November 11. Those already booked on Vistara flights from November 12 onwards will automatically have their reservations converted to Air India flight numbers. New electronic tickets will be generated for them. This process will be

carried out in phases in September, and customers will be individually informed when their ticket is converted.

Customers looking to book Vistara flights for November 12 and beyond will progressively not be able to do so from September 3 — they will have to book flights through Air India instead. Customers can still book flights scheduled for November 11 and earlier directly through Vistara.

Similarly, for most add-on services and booking modifications, customers booked on Vistara flights till November 11 can use Vistara's website, mobile application, and call centre. For bookings beyond November 11, they would be required to do so through Air India.

What will the change be like in terms of product and service quality?

Given Vistara's positioning as a premium airline, many customers are wondering what is likely to change post-merger terms of service and product quality.

Customers should not expect many



Singapore Airlines, which holds a 49% in Vistara, and will have 25.1% shareholding in the enlarged Air India post the merger. *Express, Wikimedia Commons*



changes, at least initially. All Vistara aircraft and crew will be migrated to Air India's air operator certificate or AOC, and branded as Air India flights from November 12 onwards. But for nearly all such flights, the schedule, operating crew, and aircraft will be from Vistara's existing fleet until early 2025, Air India's CEO Campbell Wilson said in an internal communication to employees.

This means that at least for a few weeks

after the merger, those flying on what will then be the erstwhile Vistara aircraft can expect continuity in terms of product and service in most cases. But it is impossible to completely rule out use of Air India aircraft and crew even in the early days as aircraft allotment is contingent upon complexities of scheduling and availability.

In time, the line between Vistara and Air India in terms of product and service would

progressively blur as the carriers' integration — aircraft, crew, and network — gathers pace. Aircraft and crew deployment is likely to be a lot more unified a few months down the line.

That said, Air India is currently refurbishing its older aircraft while it continues to induct new aircraft on a regular basis. This exercise has seen Air India add the premium economy class to its cabin layout, much like Vistara. Air India hopes that its fleet modernisation exercise will enhance its product and service quality to the level currently being offered by Vistara.

What will happen to Club Vistara, the carrier's loyalty programme?

After the integration of the two airlines is complete, Club Vistara will merge with Air India's frequent flyer programme Flying Returns. All Club Vistara accounts will eventually be migrated to Flying Returns.

Those with existing accounts in both loyalty programmes can link the two accounts via Vistara's website. If a customer does not link the two accounts by the time of the merger, the accounts will be automatically merged, provided key identification and contact details are common in both accounts. For accounts where there is any mismatch in these details, a new Flying Returns account

will be created to which Club Vistara points will be transferred. Members can later merge duplicate Flying Returns accounts.

A member's tier status in the loyalty programme will be assigned based on the cumulative points of both Club Vistara and Flying Returns. Members will either maintain their current Club Vistara tier status or get upgraded based on their cumulative points under the two programmes. Going forward, the rules of Flying Returns will apply.

"On the day of migration, the Club Vistara points balance, and the Tier Points available in the member accounts will be transferred to the Flying Returns programme at a 1:1 ratio. The points will remain valid for at least one year from the date of migration, even if they are due to expire sooner," Vistara's website says. It adds that valid and unused flight or upgrade vouchers issued to Club Vistara members will be transferred to their Flying Returns accounts with existing validity.

Both Air India and Vistara have co-branded credit cards as part of their loyalty programme offerings, but the airlines and their partner credit card companies have so far not provided details of how the offerings and point accruals on these cards will shape up with the merger of Club Vistara and Flying Returns. These are expected to be released in the coming weeks.

EXPLAINED DEFENCE

India's second nuclear sub

Induction of *INS Arighaat*, India's second nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine of the Arihant class, significantly boosts India's nuclear deterrence capabilities, and strengthens its nuclear triad

AMRITA NAYAK DUTTA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

INDIA'S SECOND nuclear submarine, the *Arighaat*, was commissioned into the Indian Navy on Thursday at Visakhapatnam. The submarine has undergone extensive trials over the last few months.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said at the commissioning ceremony that the Arihant-class submarine will "further strengthen India's nuclear triad, enhance nuclear deterrence, help in establishing strategic balance and peace in the region, and play a decisive role in the security of the country".

Meet Arighaat...

The 6,000-tonne *INS Arighaat* will join its predecessor, the nuclear submarine *INS Arihant*, as a key component of the India's nuclear triad, which refers to a country's ability to launch nuclear missiles from platforms in the air, land, and at sea.

India is part of a select group of countries with nuclear triad capabilities. These include the United States, Russia, China, and France. The induction of *INS Arihant* into the Navy in 2016 provided India with maritime strike capability for the first time.

The commissioning of *INS Arighaat* will enhance the Navy's nuclear strike capability. The nuclear-capable Agni 2, Agni 4, and Agni 5 missiles can be launched from land, and fighter aircraft of the Indian Air Force such as the Rafales, Su-30MKIs, and Mirage 2000s can deliver nuclear warheads.

The nuclear-propelled *Arighaat* will be armed with indigenously built K-15 missiles, with a range of more than 700 km. Like *Arihant*, *Arighaat* is powered by 83 MW pressurised light-water nuclear reactors, which allow it to remain submerged and undetected for much longer than conventional diesel-electric submarines.

Under its "No first-use" policy, India is committed to using nuclear weapons only for deterrence and retaliation. With its ability to survive a nuclear attack and then launch a retaliatory strike, a nuclear sub acts as a very strong deterrent.



(Left) PM Narendra Modi speaks about *Arihant* in 2018; Rajnath Singh at *Arighaat*'s commissioning. *PIB, PTI*

ARIGHAAT SPECS

6,000 tonnes
DISPLACEMENT



Note: The specifications of India's Arihant class submarines are classified. This conceptual drawing is an approximation. *Wikimedia Commons*

FIREPOWER
K-15 submarine launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs), with a range of more than 700 km; will enhance India's nuclear deterrence

POWERED BY
83 MW pressurised light-water nuclear reactors

...And the Arihant

India's nuclear-powered submarine project was initiated more than three decades ago, involving both private firms and the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO), with help from Russia. *Arihant* was launched in 2009, and commissioned into the Navy in 2016 as its first nuclear-powered submarine.

INS Arihant conducted its first deterrence patrol in 2018, thus establishing India's nuclear triad. In October 2022, the Ministry of Defence announced the successful launch, "with very high accuracy", of a submarine

launched ballistic missile (SLBM) in the Bay of Bengal by *Arihant*.

Navy's submarines

Two nuclear ballistic submarines (SSBNs) larger than *Arihant* and *Arighaat*, of around 7,000-tonne displacement, are currently being built. The first of these two subs is said to have been launched in 2021, and is awaiting commissioning pending trials and tests; the second is in the works as part of a separate classified project.

In comparison, the United States has 14 Ohio-class SSBNs and 53 fast-attack submarines. China has 12 nuclear submarines, of which six are nuclear-powered attack submarines.

The Indian Navy also has 16 conventional submarines in service — seven Kilo (Sindhughosh) class, four Shishumar class, and five French Scorpène (Kalvari) class attack submarines.

India procured the USSR-developed, diesel electric Kilo-class submarines from the mid-1980s onward. These boats have a lifespan of around 30 years, and can serve for somewhat longer after retrofitting with modern devices.

The Shishumar class submarines, developed by the German yard Howaldtswerke-Deutsche Werft (HDW) and subsequently built in India, were commissioned from the 1980s onward.

The Kalvari class submarines were built at India's Mazagon Dock in partnership with France's Naval Group. The first of these submarines, *INS Kalvari*, was commissioned in 2017, followed by several other vessels.

To carry out its full spectrum of operations, the Navy is authorised to have 18 submarines, a milestone that has been achieved with the commissioning of *INS Arighaat*. However, at any time, around 30 per cent of the fleet is under refit (repair and renovation), which brings down the strength of operational submarines.

The Navy has gone for medium refit and life certification, which includes all major repairs and replacements on a ship. This has been done to extend the lives of some of the aging subs until the new boats come in.

What commissioning of Arighaat means for India



EXPERT EXPLAINS

BISWAJIT DASGUPTA

THE COMMISSIONING of *Arighaat* should make all Indians immensely proud. India is now firmly in a very exclusive club that possesses the capability to build a nuclear-powered, ballistic missile capable submarine.

It is a huge achievement for India's national defence-scientific community — Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) and Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) — as well as their industrial partners, both public and private, that have contributed to the building and operationalisation of the submarine.

The Indian Navy must get a major share of the credit for being intimately involved with the SSBN project from the time its inception, a journey that has involved several

very precise and critical processes that do not permit any room for compromise or error.

The significance of the achievement is enormous for self-reliance. Compared to *Arihant*, India's first nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine that was commissioned in 2016, the indigenisation content has doubled in *Arighaat* (from 30 per cent to 60 per cent), while the build time has reduced substantially.

Some critical systems and sub-systems have been fully indigenised, which reduces India's reliance on foreign sources, and enhances reliability and better repair and maintenance support.

Types of nuclear submarines, what makes Arighaat special

Arighaat, like *Arihant*, is an SSBN. Nuclear-powered submarines are of three kinds. The one that carries conventional weapons is called an SSN in NATO terminology. The second, is capable of carrying guided missiles with conventional warheads — an SSGN. The third, and typically the largest and most complex, is the one that can carry ballistic missiles that may be nuclear armed — an SSBN.

Arighaat adds to India's sea-based nuclear deterrent, which is the most credible and survivable leg of the nuclear triad. It is understood that *Arighaat* will be able to carry enhanced-range missiles (3,500 km) — which will be a formidable capability.

How Arighaat fits into India's national security matrix

SSBNs are part of the country's nuclear deterrent, and constitute the sea leg of the triad, the other two being the air and land delivery systems.

India's nuclear doctrine, in addition to committing to "no first use", states that India must have a minimum credible deterrent that must be capable of massive retaliation in case of a nuclear attack by any adversary.

This deterrent is aimed at preventing nuclear escalation of any conflict between two nuclear weapon states. *Arighaat* will strengthen this deterrence.

Challenges and opportunities in SSBNs like Arighaat, Arihant

The balance weighs heavily on the side of opportunity. If India can construct and

operationalise SSBNs with such high indigenous content, it can build any kind of submarine from the nuclear stable. The gains of the enhanced indigenisation can also be utilised towards any future conventional submarine construction programme.

The experience gained by India's scientific community, the Navy, and industry is beyond measure. The spinoff in terms of creation of jobs and business is also immense. If India's nuclear submarine-building projects continue, they will prop up hundreds of industries, create several new ones, spur more innovation, and sustain the livelihoods of thousands of Indians.

Technical, operational, and training challenges will be aplenty, but these will work to the advantage of all stakeholders. They will foster even greater expertise, knowledge repositories, employment opportunities, and overall improvement in the defence-scientific-industrial complex.

Vice Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta (Retd) is a former Commander-in-Chief of the Eastern Naval Command, Indian Navy

EXPLAINED LAW

TN TO NATIONALISE KARUNANIDHI'S WORKS: WHAT THIS MEANS

AJOY SINHA KARPURAM
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

THE TAMIL Nadu government, last week, announced that the collected works of former Chief Minister M Karunanidhi would be "nationalised" — making them freely available for the public to publish, translate and adapt. Here is how this works.

Copyright laws

Under the Copyright Act, 1957, an author has a bundle of legal rights including the right to reproduce, issue copies, perform, adapt, or translate the work in question. Upon the death of the author, the ownership of the copyright falls to her legal heirs.

Section 18 of the Act allows a copyright owner to "assign" the copyright "wholly or partially" to anyone she pleases, in return for compensation. A copyright for any literary, dramatic, musical or artistic work remains in place until 60 years after the original author's death. After this, the work enters the "public domain", meaning can be used freely without permission from the former copyright owners.

Nationalisation of copyright

In 2001, the Tamil Nadu government established the Tamil Virtual Academy (TVA) to provide online education in Tamil language. The TVA has a scheme in which it collaborates with legal heirs of original copyrights to make them assign the rights to specific works to the state government.

According to the TVA, all books nationalised by the Tamil Nadu government would be released in the public domain under a CC0 1.0 Universal Public Domain Dedication license. According to the creative commons website, this means "You



Kalaingar Karunanidhi was a prolific poet. *Express*

can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, all without asking permission".

The Tamil Nadu government has, till date, nationalised the works of 179 Tamil scholars, and has paid Rs 14.42 crore in royalties to their heirs, the government said.

Case of Ambedkar's works

Prakash Ambedkar, the grandson of Dr B R Ambedkar, granted the copyright for Dr Ambedkar's works to the Maharashtra government in the 1960s. In 1976, the state government established the Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Source Material Publication Committee which published the first volume of Dr Ambedkar's works in 1979. As of today, 23 volumes containing the collected works of Dr Ambedkar are available in the public domain.

In 2016, Prakash refused to give permission for republishing these works to the Centre. He claimed that the copyright had not lapsed as the first volume of Dr Ambedkar's works was only published in 1979. The Centre countered saying since 60 years had passed since Dr Ambedkar's death, the copyright had indeed lapsed. The Centre published Dr Ambedkar's works in 2018, ignoring his grandson's claims.

NASA mission discovers weak electric field around Earth

USING OBSERVATIONS from NASA's Endurance mission, an international team of scientists has for the first time measured a planet-wide electric field thought to be as fundamental to Earth as its gravity and magnetic fields. The findings were published on Wednesday in the journal *Nature*.

The ambipolar electric field was first hypothesised some 60 years ago, when spacecraft flying over Earth's poles detected a stream of particles escaping the atmosphere into space, dubbed by scientists as polar wind. "Something had to be drawing these particles out of the atmosphere," Glyn Collinson, NASA scientist and lead author of the paper, said in a statement. Scientists suspected a yet-to-be-discovered electric field was at work, whose existence has now been confirmed.

The weak electric field — Endurance measured an electric potential of 0.55 volts — is formed in Earth's atmosphere (at nearly 250 km altitude), where atoms

break apart into negatively charged electrons and positively charged ions. Given their opposite electric charges, an electric field is formed which tethers the two kinds of particles together rather than allowing the heavier ions to sink towards Earth and the lighter electrons to drift into space.

This electric field is bidirectional, or "ambipolar," as it works in both directions — ions pull the electrons down with them as they sink with gravity. At the same time, electrons lift ions to greater heights as they attempt to escape to space. In this process, some ions are lifted high enough to escape Earth's atmosphere into space.

Scientists said the ambipolar electric field may have continuously influenced the evolution of Earth's atmosphere, and shaped it to be the planet it is today. "Now that we've finally measured it, we can begin learning how it's shaped our planet as well as others over time," Collinson said. **ENS**



PAPER CLIP
NEW RESEARCH

Classifieds

PERSONAL

Sudarshan S/o Mahendra Singh R/o K-128, Karawal Nagar Near, DTC Bus Stand North East Delhi, Delhi-110094, have changed my name to Sudarshan Kumar.

0040746472-1

It is for general information that I, Manoj Swaroop, S/o Shanti Swaroop, R/o, B-192, Gali No.-9, Bhagat-Colony, Sant-Nagar, Burari, North-Delhi, Delhi-110084, declare that name of mine has been wrongly-written as Manoj in my 10th-class certificate. The actual-name of mine is Manoj Kumar, which may be amended accordingly.

0040746556-9

It is for general information that I, Madhu C/o Vijay Kumar R/o-P-71, Street No. 10, Shiv Mandir Shankar-Nagar Extension, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-110051, declare that name of my minor daughter Nancy Aged-17 Years has been wrongly written as Nancy Mehta in her School Record. The actual name of my minor daughter is Nancy, which may be amended accordingly.

0040746557-8

I, hitherto known as Ridhi Gokhrur, D/o-Ratan Gokhrur, W/o Shubham Choudhary, R/o-45, Brothers Apartment, 16 Patparganj, Near CNG Pump, IP Extension, Shakar Pur Baramad, East Delhi, Delhi-110092, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Ridhi Choudhary.

0040746557-10

I, hitherto known as KARTAR KAUR, W/O SH. JOGINDER SINGH SHOKEEN, R/O M-449 GURU HAR KISHAN NAGAR, PASCHIM VIHAR, SUNDER VIHAR PUNJABI BAGH, WEST DELHI-110087, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as KARTAR Kaur SHOKEEN.

0040746569-3

I, Krishan Kumar, S/O-jumma ram, House no-c-17/75, Janakpuri, delhi-110058, declare that my name mentioned as Krishan taneja in my daughter luckhika taneja Passport.No-T3207467.That KRISHAN Taneja and Krishan kumar, both are the same and one person.

0040746556-8

I, VIDHESHVRAI MAHTO, S/O DEVNANDAN R/O A-495, CAMPNO.4, JWALAPURI, SUNDER-VIHAR, DELHI-110087, have changed MY NAME TO BINDESHWAR MEHTO.

0040746556-4

I, V K Chopra S/o Kashmiri Lal, R/O Flat-2103, 21th-Floor, Tower C-2, Sector-121, Noida, GautamBuddha Nagar, UP, have changed my name to Vijay Kumar.

0040746561-1

I, UMA SHANKAR RAY S/o HARANDRA RAY R/O House, No.210, Albert, Square Sector-C/F/F Type-2, New, Delhi G.P.O, New Delhi-110001, declare that name, of my, wife and my minor son has been wrongly, written as RITA DEVI and PRINCE KUMAR in my minor son PRINCE KUMAR RAY aged-9 Years in his school, record. The actual- name of my, wife and my minor son are RITA KUMARI and PRINCE KUMAR RAY.

0040746561-6

I, TARVINDER SINGH, S/O-CHHABIL SINGH AHUJA, R/O-8/22, 2ND AND 3RD-FLOOR, EAST PATEL-NAGAR, PATEL-NAGAR, NEW DELHI-110008 have changed my name to TARVINDER SINGH AHUJA, for all, future purposes.

0040746556-6

I, Sushil Prakash Dixit, S/O Shri Ram Dev, R/O-119, Street No.11.3 1/2, Pusta, Near S M P School, Kartar Nagar, Ghonda, Delhi-110053, have changed my name to Sushil Prakash.

0040746564-7

I, Suhail alias Abdulla, S/o MD Yunus R/O H.No.1428, Street No.15, Rajiv Gandhi Nagar New Mustafabad, Dayalpur, Delhi-110094 have changed my name to Abdulla

0040746561-5

I, Service No 1502947K Rank HAV Name Surendra Singh unit of 60Medium Regiment C/o 56 APO have changed my son name from Chhavi Yadav to Anmol Yadav vide Affidavit no.BL676049 dated 30-08-2024 Before Notary Public Suratgarh

0110048034-1

I, Sanjeev Kumar, S/o-Suresh Chand, R/O-B-19, Alpha-1, Greater Noida. My daughter's name, is Jyoti Lohia, and my wife's name, is Kajal Lohia, in my daughter's birth-certificate, my name is printed Sanjeev Kumar Lohiya, my daughter's name, is printed Jyoti Lohiya, and my wife's name, is printed Kajal Lohiya, in place of Sanjeev Kumar, Jyoti Lohia, and Kajal Lohia. From, now in all, documents of my daughter, my name remains Sanjeev Kumar, my daughter's name, remains Jyoti Lohia, and my wife's name, remains Kajal Lohia.

0040746569-1

I, SUMIT KUMAR, father of, AAVANI GULIA, Presently residing at, Village-Jahidpur, P.O. Untoldha, Tehsil & Distt- Jharkhand, Haryana-124103, have changed my minor daughter's name, from AAVANI GULIA to AVNI, Vide-affidavit date-30.08.2024.

0040746561-9

I, Anita W/o Mahender Kumar Jindal R/O BU-254 Pitampura Delhi-110034 have changed my name to Anita Jindal

0040746557-1

I, SIMMI LALL, R/O FLAT NO-003, TOWER-1, RAISON ARMOR HOMES, AHINSA-KHAND-2, INDIRAPURAM GHAZIABAD-201014, U.P, have CHANGED NAME OF MY MINOR DAUGHTER FROM VANSHIKA LAL TO VANSHIKA LAL, FOR ALL, FUTURE PURPOSES.

0040746557-4

I, SANJEEV GOEL S/O TRILOK CHAND R/O B-87, III-FLOOR, SOUTH CITY-II, SECTOR-49, GURUGRAM, HARYANA-122018, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SANJEEV GUPTA.

0040746556-2

I, Rizwana bi w/o Mehfooz ali, r/o 1325, Gali no-43, Jafrabad, Seelam Pur, Delhi-110053, Have changed my name to Rizwana, For All Future Purposes.

0040746556-1

I, SUNIL KUMAR, S/O SEWA RAM, R/o- House no. J-27/6A, DDA, Kalkaji, Delhi-110019, Change My Name to SUNIL GUPTA (New Name) Permanently.

0040746564-6

I, Rajesh Mittal, S/o Desh Raj, R/o-9/5482 Gali No.5, Raghubar Pura, Gandhi Nagar, Delhi-110031, have changed my name to Rajesh Kumar, for all purposes.

0040746557-7

I, Radhir Kumar Gupta, S/O-Devendra Gupta R/O, C-1202, Amrapali-Zodiac, Plot.No. GH003 Sector-120, Noida gautam Budha-Nagar Uttar pradesh-201301, Have Changed my name to Randhir Kumar Gupta.

0040746557-9

I, PARVEEN KUMAR SHARMA, S/O SHIV DUTT R/O HNO.M-126, VIKAS PURI, DELHI-110018, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO PARVEEN SHARMA.

0040746561-3

I, No-15754353M, signm Chougale Dnyandeve Sambhaji, Unit 20RR (Dogra), C/O-56 APO, In my service record names of my parents has been wrongly mentioned father as Chougale Sambhaji Dattu instead of Sambhaji Dattu Chougale, and mother as Mangal instead of Mangal Sambhaji Chougale. It needs corrections. Objections be filled to concerned authorities.

0020480700-1

I, Nehal Sharma, S/O Late, Shree Prem Nath Sharma, R/O C-4, Arya Smaj-Road NIT-1 faridabad, Haryana-121001, changed my son's name, From Tanmay Sharma to Tanmay Neeraj Sharma, for all ,purposes

0040746556-5

I, NIKHIL LIHLA S/o Pawan Kumar R/O-1717-1718, Gali Pious Wali Darba Kalan Chandani Chowk Delhi G.P.O North Delhi-110066 have changed my name to NIKKHIL LIHLA

0040746557-2

I, NAHID W/O TANVEER KHAN, R/O HNO-B-414, SANGAM PARK, RANA PRATAP BAGH, DELHI-110007, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO NAHID KHAN.

0040746561-4

I, Mohd Faizan, S/o-Sattar Ahmad, R/O C-749, G/Floor, Jasola Pocket-11, DDA-Janta Flat, New Delhi-110025, have change, my name to given name Mohd And surname Faizan, my passport.

0040746569-2

I, Jyotsana Taneja, W/o-Sh. Sumit Dhingra R/o G-6-381, Third Floor, Sector-16, Rohini, Delhi-110089, have changed my name from Kashish Dhingra to Jyotsana Taneja. Kashish Dhingra and Jyotsana Taneja are one & same person.

0040746564-1

I, Jayant Kumar Yadav, S/O-Ram Pher Yadav, R/O-3542-B, First Floor, Raja Park, Rani Bagh, Delhi-110034, have changed my name to Jayant Yadav.

0040746564-2

I, JITENDRA KUMAR MAHTO S/O BINDESHWAR MEHTO R/O A-495, CAMP NO.4, JWALAPURI, SUNDER-VIHAR, DELHI-110087, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO JITENDER KUMAR MAHTO.

0040746556-3

I, JAFER SADIQUE ALI BAIG, father of, RAHIL ALIBAIG, Presently, residing at, Door No.1-80/1, Syeda Street, Chandole (Vill.), P.V, Palem (Tehsil), Bapatla (Distt.), Andhra Pradesh-522311, have changed my-minor son's name, from RAHIL ALIBAIG to RAHIL ALI BAIG. Vide-affidavit, date-30.08.2024.

0040746561-10

I, Hitherto Known As Rishabh S. Jaitin, S/O, Naveen Jain, R/O, 70-B, Gali No.4/5, Near Seema Tea-Store, Rashid Market, Krishna Nagar, East-Delhi-110031, Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Aashit Jain.

0040746557-6

I, DEVENDRA SINGH, S/O NANNU SINGH, R/O FF-1/168, GYAN KHAND-4, INDIRAPURAM GHAZIABAD-201014, UTTAR- PRADESH, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO DEVENDRA KUMAR SINGH, FOR ALL, FUTURE PURPOSES.

0040746557-3

I, Bhumi, W/o-Parveen sharma, R/o B-765, Galaxy North Avenue-2, Gaur City-2, Gr. Noida West, Sec-16C, G.B. Nagar, U.P.-201301, have changed my name to Bhumi Sharma.

0040746564-4

I, Sunita Agnihotri W/o Pardeep Kumar R/O 3510, Gali No. 1, Azad Road, Azad Nagar, Chheharta, Amritsar-ii, Amritsar, Punjab -143105 have confirm that my name has undergone change after marriage is Sunita Agnihotri and before marriage my name was Sunita Sharma/Sunita Rani. Therefore, I confirm that all these names Sunita Agnihotri/Sunita Sharma/Sunita Rani refer to the one and the same person for all future purposes."

0040746450-1

I, BABLI KUMARI, W/O PRAVEEN CHAUDHARY, H.NO-28A, DHADHAN MOHALLA, BADARPUR VILLAGE, DELHI-110044, have changed my name to SWETA CHAUDHARY, for all, future purpose.

0040746556-7

I, ARIF KHAN ALIAS ARIFE KHAN, S/O ISLAM KHAN, R/O-D-69, THIRD-FLOOR, JAMIA-NAGAR, ABUL-FAZAL ENCLAVE PART-I, DELHI-110025, have changed my name and shall hereafter be know as ARIF KHAN.

0040746561-2

I, 14827571A, Rank HAV RAJIV KUMAR, S/O SH. RAM DHAN, R/O RZ-C-39, PREM-NAGAR, NAJAFGARH, DELHI-110043, have changed my minor son (KHUSHAL) date-of-birth, from 25.11.2010 to 01.04.2008 (in my-service records), for all, future purposes.

0040746557-5

I, YAJMAN PRABHUSWAMY RAJESH S/O SHRI YAJMAN MUDDABASAPPA PRABHUSWAMY R/O A-201, ATS GREENS-I, SECTOR-50, NOIDA, GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR, UTTAR PRADESH-201301 DO HEREBY SOLEMNLY AFFIRM AND DECLARE THAT WE HAVE CHANGED THE NAME OF MY DAUGHTER NAYANTARA TO NAYANTARA RAJESH. IN FUTURE MY DAUGHTER WILL BE KNOWN AS NAYANTARA RAJESH FOR ALL PURPOSES.

0040746557-1

I, Uttam Singh S/o Late Sh. Bhagwan Singh Rawat R/O KA-407 Ground Floor, Sector-12, Pratap Vihar Ghaziabad U.P. have changed my name to Uttam Singh Rawat for all future purposes.

0040746466-2

I, Tarun S/O Umesh Kumar Gupta, R/O B-202, Park View Apartment, Sector-61, NOIDA, 201301 have changed my Name from Tarun to Tarun Gupta for all future purposes.

0070921448-1

I, Sunita W/o Ashok Kumar Saini R/O 33-A, Block-A, Shyam Colony, Near Shiv Mandir, Budh Vihar, Delhi-110086 have changed my name from Sunita to Sunita Saini permanently

0040746541-1

I, Sudhir Sharma Bhardwaj S/O Sh. Ram Raksh Pal Sharma R/O 3282 G.F., Near Shiv Mandir, HUDA, Sector 57, Gurgaon have change my name to Sudhir Bhardwaj for all purposes.

0040746444-1

I, Shyam Sunder S/O Rajinder Kumar Dhingra, R/O D-629, Saraswati Vihar S.O, North West, Delhi-110034, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Shyam Sunder Dhingra

0070921496-1

I, Satish kharbanda S/o Banarsi Dass R/o 22-55-56, West Patel Nagar, Delhi-110008, have changed my name to Satish Kumar for all future purposes.

0040746461-1

I, Sandeep S/o Rohtash Kumar R/o Sanjarpur Kaidwa, Bhaghpatt U.P-250611, have changed my name to Sandeep Kumar for all future purposes.

0040746472-2

I, SUHANI MISHRA D/O LATE RAMAKANT MISHRA R/O 22-D, OFFICERS ENCLAVE SARDAR PATEL MARG, CHANAKKYAPURI NEW DELHI declare that Both SUHANI MISHRA & SUHANI MISHRA SHIVEAYAN are the same person. That My real name is SUHANI MISHRA for all future purposes.

0070921528-1

I, Rakesh Kumar Jain S/o Amrit Lal Jain R/o 10C/23, Sec-10, Vasundhara, Ghaziabad have Changed my name to Rakesh Jain.

0070921456-1

I, Poonam Devi, W/O Rambaran Singh R/o B-12, Khushboo Ravi Niketan, Ashiyana Digha Road, Chandra Vihar Colony, Phulwari, Patna, Bihar- 800025 have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Punam Kumari

0070921460-1

I, Om Prakash Gupta, S/o Tara Chand Gupta, R/o Gram & Post- Pipli, Tehsil Mundawar, Alwar, Rajasthan-301424, do hereby declare that Om Parkash Gupta (Incorrect name & Pan Card No. AAJPG6979R) and Om Prakash Gupta (Correct Name & New Pan Card No. ABRPG1695D), are the same person. Henceforth, I have changed my name from Om Parkash Gupta to Om Prakash Gupta for all future purposes.

0040746451-1

I, OMWATI W/o. Shri PREM SINGH SAINI R/O. 53 Kushak No. 1, Kadipur North, West Delhi-110036, in my NTPC Department (Medical Record) name mentioned as Omwati Singh, I declare That OMWATI & Omwati Singh both are same and one person.

0040746446-1

I, Nupur D/O Anil Kumar Shorewala, R/o 7 A/2, Rajpur Road, Satyam Apartment, Civil lines S/O, North Delhi, Delhi-110054, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Nupur Shorewala

0070921490-1

I, Nimisha Tadas, W/O Shubhankar Shashikant R/O 2001, IIT Engineers Apartment, Plot 12, Sector 10, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075 have changed my name Nimish Arvind Tadas for all future purposes.

0070921482-1

I Hermeet Singh Saini S/O, Gurcharan Singh R/O Sec.14 House No.40 Guru Teg Bahadur Nagar Kharar Sas Nagar have changed my name to Harmeet Singh Saini.

0040746522-1

I Anil Agarwal S/o Late Sh. Summer Chand Aggarwal R/O A-111, Lok Vihar, Pitampura, Delhi-110034 have changed my name to Anil Kumar Aggarwal for all purposes.

0040746442-1

I, Navneet Kumar, S/o- Bhagwati Prasad Singh, R/o: RZF-50, Second Floor, Nihal Vihar, Nangloi, New Delhi-110041 Have Changed My Name to Yuvraj Singh Thakur.

0040746470-1

I, Leshiya Pulikesi D/O R.P. Mannan, R/O DI-1309, P.O. & P.S. Vasant Kunj, Dist- South West Delhi-110070, ND will hence forth be known as P.M. Sayee Leshya for all future purposes as per the sworn affidavit before the Notary Public at New Delhi on August 30,2024. Both Leshiya Pulikesi and P.M. Sayee Leshya are the same and one Person only.

0040746460-2

I, Jatinder Wadhwa S/o Satnam Das Wadhwa R/o G-84, Mansarovar Garden, New Delhi-110015, have changed my name to Jitender Wadhwa.

0040746569-4

I, Jasbir Singh Bhardwaj S/o Late Sh. Behara Singh R/o E-87, Ganesh Nagar Complex, Pandav Nagar, Akshardham, East Delhi-110092 have changed my name from Jasbir Singh Bhardwaj to Jasbir Singh for all future purposes.

0040746466-3

I, Farhaad Hussain S/O Md Kasmir Ali, R/O C-60, Near Birbal Park, Jangpura Extension, Jangpura, South Delhi-110014, I have changed the name of my minor daughter yarinia husain aged about 14 Years and She shall hereafter be known as yarinia hussain

0070921467-1

I, Divij Kalra S/o Shri Sanjay Kalra, residing at 14201, ATS One Hemlet, Sec-104, Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P.-201304, have changed the name of my minor son from ZION KALRA to ZAYN KALRA (DOB-13.06.2019) for all future purposes.

0040746440-1

I, Bhupendra Kumar Kashyap, S/o Laxman Singh Kashyap, R/o, D 138/C, Gali No.6, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092 have changed my name from Bhupendra Kumar Kashyap to Bhupender Kumar Kashyap. Henceforth I would be known by the name of Bhupender Kumar Kashyap for all future purposes.

0040746464-1

I, Bhagwati Prasad Badoni S/o Prem Lal Badoni R/O 343, Sahab Nagar, Dehradun, Uttarakhand -249204 have changed my name to Bhagwat Prasad Badoni for all purposes in future.

0070921508-1

I, Neetu Rally W/O Deepak Rally R/O of Building 120, Flat No 72 Silver Oaks Apartment DLF phase 1 Gurgaon Haryana have changed my name to Neetu for all future purposes.

0070921540-1

I, Ashok Kumar S/o Kabul Singh R/o 33-A, Block-A, Shyam Colony, Near Shiv Mandir, Budh Vihar, Delhi-110086 have changed my name from Ashok Kumar to Ashok Kumar Saini permanently

0040746541-2

I, Anju W/o Sandeep Kumar R/o Sanjarpur Kaidwa, Bhaghpatt U.P-250611, have changed my name to Anju Devi for all purposes.

0040746472-3

I, Anju Taneja, W/o Sh. Gulshan Taneja, R/O J-13-B, Sheikh Sarai Ph-2, New Delhi-110017, have changed my name from Anju Sharma to Anju Taneja for all future purposes.

0040746579-1

I, Aakansha D/o Gyan Chand, R/o-224 DDA Flat Lado Sarai Delhi-110030, Have Changed My Name To Aakansha Chandra For Future

0040746579-2

I, ASHWANI KUMAR S/o Roshan Lal Sharma R/O B-40, S.F, Right Side, Green Field Colony, Gate No. 2, NHPC Colony, Faridabad, Haryana-121010, have changed my name to ASHWANI SHARMA for all purposes

0040746445-1

Ihitherto known as SUANGNA SINGH wife of SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH presently residing at Flat No. 404, Ganga Block-G-3, Sector-D, P.KT-6, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SUANGNA ANAND.

0040746564-5

I, Schin Kumar S/O Kanheiya Lal R/O Near Radha Krishan Mandir Prajapati Maholla Sector-31, Nithari Noida Gautam Budh Nagar U.P. Have Changed My Name To Sachin Kumar For All Future Purpose.

0070921506-1

I, Purnima N Raj W/o Y C Nagaraja R/O 401- Prime Vijayas Apartment, Near New Baldwin School, Banasawadi, Bangalore North, Karnataka,-560043, have changed my name to V Purnima

0070921526-1

I, Parul D/o Sh. Sanjay Gupta R/o 215/20, Onkar Nagar-B, Tri Nagar, Delhi-110035 have changed my name to Parul Gupta for all purposes.

0040746442-2

I, OMANA SUKUMARAN RAMACHANDRAN S/O Late P. SUKUMARAN NAIR R/O Qr. No. 211, Type-3, Police Line, Vikaspur, Delhi Do hereby declare that I have changed my Name from O S RAMACHANDRAN to OMANA SUKUMARAN

0040746457-1

I, Maharshi Jamani Kant Gupta Jahanvi, S/o Bhulkan Sah, R/O Flat No-3004, Tower-Aster, SKS Greenarch, Sector-16B, Gr. Noida West, G G Nagar, UP-201318, have changed my name to Maharshi J.Jahanvi.

0040746564-3

I, Vaishali, D/O Ram Lal Khanna, R/O-A-65 and 66, F/F, Kh.No.8/24 Jain-Park Uttam Nagar D.K.Mohan Garden, West, New Delhi-110059, Have Changed my Name Vaishali Khanna.

0040746556-10

LOST & FOUND
Original documents of my flat no-1101, 11th floor, Tower-3, Parshvanath Estate, Sector-Omega-1, Greater Noida, Distt . G.B. Nagar U.P.-201308, General Power of Documents like attorney, possession certificate etc. have gone missing somewhere. Whose use by any other person or organization will be invalid. Neeraj Chaturvedi, son of Dhruv Mani Chaturvedi.

0040746466-1

EDUCATION
EDUCATIONAL

PUBLIC NOTICE 2Yrs Regular DPSE course. Management seats are available as per SCERT norms. Apply at - L.R. COLLEGE OF ADVANCE STUDIES, Block H3, Pocket-1, Sector-111, Rohini Delhi -85.



UJVN LIMITED
H.O.: "UJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephone: 0135-2763808, Fax: 0135-2763508
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvn.com

Letter No: 775
Corrigendum
Date: 30/08/2024

Due to unavoidable circumstances, partial modifications in NIT No. 01(GH)/EE (E&M-III)/Lakhtar/ 2024-25 have been made and are being issued accordingly.
All prospective bidders are requested to take the cognizance.
All other terms and conditions shall remain unchanged. For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam's website www.ujvn.com
Executive Engineer
(E&M-III) Lakhtar, Dakpathar

"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"



NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

Tender No. :- JHSW-MNP-24-09
Date : 28.08.2024

E-Tender Notice

For & on behalf of President of India, Chief Workshop Manager, Wagon Repair Workshop, North Central Railway, Jhansi has invites online E-tender for the following work.

Description of work : Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract for Universal Axle Journal Turning and Burnishing Lath (AJTB) Plant No. 930 at Wagon Repair Workshop, Jhansi for 03 Years

Approx Cost : Rs. 29,92,565.55/- (Rupees Twenty Nine Lakh Ninety Two Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Five and Paise Fifty Five only)

Earnest Money : Rs. 59,900/- (Rupees Fifty Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Only)

Completion Period : 36 Months | **Date of closing : 23.09.2024 at 15:00 Hrs.**

1. Tender will be closed at 15:00 Hrs on 23.09.2024 and is available on Indian Railway E-Tendering website www.ireps.gov.in. 2. For detailed information please visit Indian Railway E-Tendering website www.ireps.gov.in. 1533/24 (D)

www.ireps.gov.in | [@CPRONCR](mailto:CPRONCR) | www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in




NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY

Open Tender Notice No. : NER-BSB0SNT-OT-20-2024

"Open Tenders" through Online (E-Tendering) are invited by Divisional Railway Manager (Signal & Telecomm) / Varanasi/ N. E. Railway for and behalf of the President of India for the following works: **SN: 1 Tender, Notice No. and Description of Work : NER-BSB0SNT-OT-20-2024: Name of work:** Reliability improvement through Provision of Remote Terminal Unit at Balance mid section Interlocked Level crossing gates and strengthening of network to cater RTU over Varanasi division. **Details : Approx. Value : ₹10049052.76** **Earnest Money : ₹200300.00/-** **Cost of Tender Form : ₹00.00/-** **Completion period: 08 Months** **Tender Closing date & Time:** 24.09.2024 up to 15.00 Hrs 1. Tender Online will be submitted upto to 15 Hrs on date 24.09.2024. 2. For full details and submission of bid kindly visit the Official website of Indian railways i.e. www.ireps.gov.in

Divisional Railway Manager
CPRO/Signal-34 (S&T), Varanasi
DO NOT SMOKE BIDI/CIGARETTE IN TRAINS



EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tender notice no.: TL-AC-CRW-HRT-23, Date: 28.08.2024

For and on behalf of President of India, Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer, Carriage Repair Workshop, Hamaut invites open e-tender for the following works as detailed:-
1. Name of work with its location: Provision of manual isolating switch with fuse to isolate the DA set starter motor after start of DA set at CRW/HRT for 102 power car. 2. Approx. cost of the work: Rs. 1,07,44,437.24/- (Rupees One Crore Seven Lakh Forty Four Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Seven and Paise Twenty Four only). 3. Cost of Tender Form: Nil. 4. Earnest Money to be deposited: Rs. 2,03,700.00/- (Rupees Two Lakh Three Thousand Seven Hundred only). 5. Date & Time for submission of tender and opening of Tender: The tender have to be submitted online on <https://www.ireps.gov.in> website up to 12.00 hrs on 18.09.2024 and will be opened on the same day at 12:30 hrs. 6. Website particulars, Notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc: Detailed tender notice, eligibility criteria & tender documents can be seen from the CRIS website: <https://www.ireps.gov.in> & full details of notice can be seen on notice board in the office of Chief Workshop Manager, Administrative Building, Carriage Repair Workshop, Hamaut, Nalanda, Bihar-803110. All corrigendum will be uploaded on website if required.
Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer
Carriage Repair Workshop/Hamaut
PR/00996/HRT/MECH/T/24-25/48

कार्यालय परियोजना प्रबन्धक, युनिट-36
कन्स्ट्रक्शन एण्ड डिजाइन सर्विसेज
उत्तर प्रदेश जल निगम (नगरीय)
1470/01, सिविल लाईन्स, डा. रावर्ट
अस्पताल के पास, झौरी-284001
ई-मेल: pmunit36@gmail.com

पत्रांक : 1394/एम-10/186
दिनांक : 27.08.2024

ई-निविदा सूचना

उत्तर प्रदेश जल निगम (नगरीय) की ओर से अधोहस्तकारी द्वारा बाँदा कुषि एवं प्रौद्योगिक विद्युतविद्युत बाँदा के अन्तर्गत कुषि विज्ञान केन्द्र, खिरिया मिश्र जनपद-लखनौपुर में मिलेडस प्रसंकरण एवं वैकिंग सह विषयन केन्द्र के निर्माण कार्य हेतु अनुमानित लागत रु. 29.08 लाख (जीएसटीडीए) रहित एवं लेबर सेस सहित) हेतु दिनांक 18.09.2024 की अपरान्ह 16:00 बजे तक ई-निविदाएं आमन्त्रित की जाती है। उक्त कार्य हेतु ई-निविदा प्रपत्र दिनांक 28.08.2024 से दिनांक 18.09.2024 के मध्य उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की e-procurement वेबसाइट <https://etender.up.nic.in> से डाउनलोड किये जा सकते हैं तथा ई-निविदा दिनांक 18.09.2024 को अपरान्ह 17:00 बजे कार्यालय परियोजना प्रबन्धक, युनिट-36, सीएच डी.एन., उ.प्र. जल निगम (नगरीय), झौरी में खोली जायेगी। ई-निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य रु. 2000.00 + GST (18%) अतिरिक्त देय होगा। निविदा से सम्बन्धित विस्तृत विवरण विभाग की वेबसाइट www.cdsupn.org एवं प्रोक्वैरमेंट पोर्टल <https://etender.up.nic.in> पर उपलब्ध है। समस्त शुद्धिपत्र (Corrigendum) <https://etender.up.nic.in> पर ही अपलोड किये जायेंगे, इनका प्रयुक्त से कोई प्रकाशन नहीं किया जायेगा। निविदादाताओं को सलाह दी जाती है कि वे उक्त वेबसाइट का समय-समय पर अवलोकन करते रहें।

कार्यालय परियोजना प्रबन्धक, युनिट-18
कन्स्ट्रक्शन एण्ड डिजाइन सर्विसेज
उत्तर प्रदेश जल निगम (नगरीय)
(उपग्रह सरकार का उपक्रम)
मकान सं.-जे.1/17 आरिवाया फेज-2,
(कुछा) आरपीईसी सेक्टर के सामने वाली गली में
कोट रोड, मुन्नाबाद- 244001
E-mail: pm18mbd@gmail.com

पत्रांक- 2686/एम-18/748
दिनांक :- 30.08.2024

अपकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

No. EL 811/21/995 (T) Dated : 30.08.2024 DRM (Electrical) NWR Ajmer on behalf of The President of India invites E - Tenders for the following work up to 15.00 Hrs. on the mentioned date. **Tender No.: DRM-Elect - 11 - 24-25** Name of work: All Div.: Improvement of Community Hall at Abu Road. **Approximate cost of work: ₹815868/-** **Earnest Money: ₹16300/-** **Date of closing E-Tender: 16.09.24** **Tender No.: DRM-Elect-12 - 24-25** Name of work: All Div.: Electric work due to upgradation / development of maintenance infrastructure and maintenance facilities for Vande Bharat trains at Madar. **Approximate cost of work: ₹8634460/-** **Earnest Money: ₹172700/-** **Date of closing E-Tender: 19.09.24** **Tender No.: DRM-Elect - 13-24-25** Name of work: Repair & maintenance work of DG set over Ajmer Division for two years. **Approximate cost of work: ₹3262688/-** **Earnest Money: ₹65300/-** **Date of closing E-Tender: 23.09.24** **Tender No.: DRM-Elect - 14 - 24-25** Name of work: All Div.: (RPF Company Reserve Ajmer) - Electric work due to Modernization and Up gradation RPF barracks in accordance with template on barracks, post / out posts and offices. **Approximate cost of work: ₹851651/-** **Earnest Money: ₹17000/-** **Date of closing E-Tender: 23.09.24** The details of above E - tender are available on website www.ireps.gov.in

EVENT— SHARDA UNIVERSITY



Sharda University's Team SAMARTH Secures 3rd Rank in ISRO Robotics Challenge, by President of India Sharda School of Engineering & Technology is proud to announce the remarkable achievement. The event held at the ISRO Centre. Prof. (Dr.) Parma Nand, Pro VC, said " Team SAMARTH, showcased exceptional skill & ingenuity with their rover design, which impressed the panel of experts & distinguished them among the top teams in the country.

ORIENTATION — I.T.S



Dr. Tarun Lala, Zonal Head of Max Super Speciality Hospital Saket, Delivers Insightful Lecture at BPT 2024-28 Orientation Programme to welcome the new BPT Batch, at I.T.S Institute of Health & Allied Sciences recently. The session throw light on the Recent Advances in the Field of Physiotherapy & the enhancing role of robotics in physiotherapy. Dr. Tarun explained & demonstrated various videos of patients treated with Robotics.

PROGRAM— SOUTH ASIAN UNIVERSITY



Professor Zia-ul-Qayyum, Chairman, Governing Board, SAU, & Executive Director, Higher Education Commission of Pakistan, visited the SAU. His visit was marked by his special remarks at the Institute of South Asian Studies which organised the Annual Distinguished Lecture series on Academic Excellence. The first lecture was delivered by the President SAU, Prof K K Aggarwal, & Chaired by Prof Zia-ul-Qayyum. In his remarks Prof Qayyum underlined that SAU can play a pivotal role in imparting education across borders to all members of the SAARC Countries.

EVENT —KIET



In the lead-up to National Space Day, the KIET Group of Institutions, in collaboration with the Centre of Space Technologies & the Dept of Electronics & Communication, organized an inspiring event that welcomed 150 students from various schools across Ghaziabad. The event, held under the umbrella of AICTE, featured a distinguished guest, G P Singh, a retired ISRO scientist, as the chief guest. Dr. Himanshu Chaudhary, Asst Prof of ECE commenced the event & Prof. (Dr.) Preeti Bajaj, DG, Dr. Manoj Goel, JD & all the faculty members were present at the event.

PROGRAM — AMITY UNIVERSITY



Amity Business School, Noida campus, organized a Guest lecture by Dr. Samrit Patra, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), on the topic "Empowering Youth to be Change Catalysts", for mgmt students. The Guest Lecture was organized as a Curtain Raiser to the upcoming flagship event, the 10th edition of Global Leadership Research Conference. Dr. Patra, said, "It is crucial to have a goal in life in order to become successful, however, only becoming successful is not important but sustaining the success is important.

MOU— SAVEETH DENTAL COLLEGE



Saveetha Dental College under Saveetha Institute of Medical & Technical Sciences, Chennai, signed a landmark MoU with the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. This historic agreement establishes SDC as the first center in India recognized by RCSI to conduct the prestigious Faculty of Dental Surgery examinations in Chennai, offering significant benefits to dental trainees & consultants across the region. The partnership underscores the mutual commitment.



THE ADMINISTRATION OF UNION TERRITORY OF LADAKH
Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council Kargil
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MACHANICAL DIVISION KARGIL.
CORRIGENDUM-III

E-NIT No:- MDK/c-NIT/08 of 2024-25, Dated:- 19.07.2024 for Supply, testing and commissioning of Wheeled Tele-handler Machine of rated capacity 3.0 ton and maximum lift of 11 mtr, for Mechanical Division Kargil.

Due to poor response, with only a single bid received again after the e-NIT due date and time, hence the critical dates have been further extended to ensure fair and healthy competition, as detailed below:

Bid submission end date : 02-09-2024 upto and time 02:00 PM

Bid opening date and time : 03-09-2024 after 02:00 PM

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Mechanical Division,
Kargil

N:- MDK/Corrigendum/668
Dated:- 26.08.2024



Office of The Executive Engineer, Construction Division,
U.P. JAL NIGAM (URBAN)
Water Works Compound, Krishna Nagar, Mathura- 281004,
E-mail-eeecdmathura@gmail.com

Letter No. 875 /Nivida/22 Date: 30.08.2024

Short Term E-Tender Notice

Sl. No.	Description	Dates
1	Name of Work	Operation, Maintenance And Running Of Chandrapuri Colony, New Bus Stand And Old Bus Stand Storme Water Pumping Station Including All Electrical Panels/ Starters, Motor, D.G Set, Civil Structure And Allied Works At Mathura
2	Completion Period for Construction	1 Year
3	Period of Trial Run	-
4	Period of Defect Liability	-
5	Date of Issue of Notice Inviting Tender	30.08.2024
6	Period of Sale of Bidding Documents:	From: 06.09.2024 To 17.09.2024 Through E-Tendering Portal https://etender.up.nic.in
7	Website of UP Jal Nigam:	www.jn.upscd.gov.in
8	Last date and time for submission of queries by bidders:	N.A.
9	Time, Date and Place of Pre-bid Meeting Date (if any):	N.A.
10	Bid Submission Start Date:	06.09.2024
11	Last Date of Bid Submission:	17.09.2024 Time 15:00 Hrs. On E-Tendering Portal https://etender.up.nic.in
12	Date, Time and Place for opening Technical Bid/ Bids Date	17.09.2024 Time 15:30 Hrs. On E-Tendering Portal https://etender.up.nic.in Place: Office of Executive Engineer, Construction Division, UP Jal Nigam (Urban), Mathura Phone No. 9473942649
13	Time and Date of opening Financial Bids:-	Date to be notified through Portal.
14	Bid Validity Period:	120 days (One hundred and twenty days)

Executive Engineer



ANDHRA PRADESH STATE CIVIL SUPPLIES CORPORATION LIMITED
Head Office: 10-152/1, Ashoknagar, Bandar Road, Vijayawada-520007
Mktg/M2/ Proc & Supply to Welfare Hostels/ 2024 Date: 30.08.2024

TENDER NOTICE

ZONE WISE BIDDERS ARE INVITED FROM ELIGIBLE BIDDERS FOR SUPPLY OF RED CHILLI POWDER, TURMERIC POWDER, TAMARIND, AND SAMBAR POWDER FOR THE PERIOD FROM OCTOBER 2024 TO MARCH 2025 TO ALL THE MLS POINTS OF APSCSCL IN (26) DISTRICTS OF AP STATE FOR SUPPLY TO THE WELFARE DEPARTMENT THROUGH NCDEX E-MARKETS LIMITED (NEM) AUCTION PLATFORM.

Andhra Pradesh State Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd invites bids from eligible bidders for supply of 1754.754 MTs of Red Chilli Powder, Turmeric Powder, Tamarind, And Sambar Powder in multiple packings with secondary packing in 50 Kg new polypropylene (PP) bags for Supply to the Welfare Department for the period of Sc (36) months i.e., from October 2024 to March 2025 to all the M.L.S Points of Twenty Six (26) districts in Andhra Pradesh State.

All the interested Suppliers/Contractors in All Over India may visit www.apscscl.in & www.nem1.in to view and download tender documents free of cost.

Interested bidders need to register in portal as vendor i.e., in NCDEX e Markets Limited for Supply. Contact Tel: 9962059599 or 9032429420 or 9885549722 and Email: askus@nem1.in

Last date for registration and completion of formalities for the e-auction shall be up to 13.09.2024 up to 5 PM and the tentative date of online e-reverse auction through NCDEX e Markets Limited platform would be 17.09.2024, 11:00 AM onwards.

Sd/- VC & MANAGING DIRECTOR
www.apscscl.in

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform that all in patient medical records (excluding MLC) of patients admitted at GBH American Hospital, 101, Kothi Bagh, Bhatt ji ki Bari, Udaipur from the period 1/01/2018 to 31/03/2019 are going to be destroyed as per norms. Any patient / concerned who requires a copy of their Medical Record can contact MRD Office within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice after which it will be non retrievable and hospital will not be responsible for the same.

GBH AMERICAN HOSPITAL
Phone: 0294-3535000



OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER CONSTRUCTION DIVISION (E/M) U.P. JAL NIGAM (URBAN) GHAZIABAD (U.P.)

Letter No: 1982 / Vividh-7 / 106 Dated: 28.08.2024

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE

E-tender for "Dismantling of unserviceable MOV Actuator and Sluice Valve mounted on Bypass delivery line 900mm dia along with Supply & fitting of MOV Actuator inbuilt Starter and SCADA Compatible at 50 Cusec Ganga Jal Water Treatment Plant, Pratap Vihar, Ghaziabad" is invited by U.P. Jal Nigam (Urban) that shall be downloaded and uploaded at e-procurement website <http://etender.up.nic.in> from 02.09.2024 at 15:00 Hrs. onwards to 09.09.2024 at 17:00 Hrs. E-tender shall be open on 10.09.2024 at 15:00 hrs. onwards at office of the Executive Engineer, Construction Division (E/M) U.P. Jal Nigam (Urban), Ghaziabad. The cost of tender document is 1,000/-18% GST. All other conditions shall be as per NIT and tender document.

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

Quotation Notice No.: Com/85-AC/ Train Side Vending/2024. Dated:- 29.08.2024. Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, N.W.Rly, Bikaner on behalf of the President of India invites Quotation in sealed cover envelope for the purpose of temporary allotment of Train Side Vending Services over Bikaner Division for the period as mentioned in the enclosed documents. The date of submission and opening of Quotation are as under: **Earnest Money (EMD) in Rs.:** EMD as per detail given in Quotation documents for the purpose of allotment of Train Side Vending Services in favour of Sr. Divisional Finance Manager, N.W.Rly, Bikaner Division. **Date and time of submission of Tender and opening date and time of Tender:** 05.09.2024 up to 15:00 hrs. 05.09.2024 at 15:30 hrs. **Website particulars and Notice board location:** www.ireps.gov.in in DRM Office, N.W.Rly, Bikaner. Details of terms and conditions of contract and detail of the earnest money are available on the website (www.ireps.gov.in): The quotation will be submitted in the quotation box which will be available in the outside of Commercial Branch. In case on date of opening of Quotation is declared as holiday, the Quotation will be opened on the next working day at the same time. The Railway Administration reserve the full right to cancel any one or all quotation without assigning any reasons.

1005-AR/24

Follow us on: www.ireps.gov.in | www.nwrailways.gov.in | www.nwrailways.gov.in

CORPORATE BRIEFS

AWARD — GGSIPU



In a grand celebration of excellence & leadership, Padma Prof. (Dr.) Mahesh Verma, VC of GGSIPU, was conferred with the highest state award "Prerna Srot Samman" at the State-level Independence Day Ceremony 2024, held at Dehra, Kangra. The award, presented by the CM of Himachal Pradesh to honour Prof. Verma's exemplary contributions to promote innovation & excellence.

WORKSHOP — AMITY UNIVERSITY



Amity University Noida organized a Workshop on "Pre-Incubation Entrepreneurship Development Programme" in collaboration with Indian National Space Promotion & Authorization Centre, Dept of Space, GoI. The IN-SPACE PIE program is designed for aspiring space entrepreneurs & individuals with innovative ideas in the space sector who are seeking early-stage support & mentorship to develop their concepts into viable businesses.

EVENT — JUIT



Jaypee University of Information Technology, Himachal Pradesh celebrated First National Space Day recently with a series of engaging & educational events aimed at promoting interest in space science & exploration. A total of 130 students from different schools registered for the event. The celebration included an expert talk, a declamation contest, a poster competition, and a model making competition.

VISIT — SOUTH ASIAN UNIVERSITY



Professor KK Agarwal, President of SAU est. by SAARC countries in New Delhi, paid a courtesy visit to Nepal's Foreign Minister Arju Rana Deuba. During this, Professor KK Agarwal informed the Foreign Minister about the courses being conducted in the university. Prof Agarwal said that this is the first & only university in South Asia which is being run jointly by all the member countries of SAARC including India.

CONVOCATION — VELLORE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY



Annual Convocation 2024 & Inauguration of New Buildings at VIT Chennai was held recently. Dr. G. Viswanathan, Chancellor & Founder of VIT presided over the function. The occasion was graced by Vice-Presidents Sankar Viswanathan, Dr. Sekar Viswanathan, ED Dr. Sandhya Pentareddy & AVP Kathambari S. Viswanathan. VC Dr. V.S. Kanchana Bhaaskaran, The Pro-VC of VIT Chennai, additional Registrar Dr. P.K. Manoharan, and a large number of professors, students, and parents were present at the Annual Convocation ceremony.

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

For and on behalf of President of Republic of India, Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer/Construction-1) North Western Railway, Jaipur invites E-Tender for the following works upto 15:00 Hrs. on the mentioned date. **Tender No. EL/CJ/CI/CUR-SDLPT/1024-25** **Date: 30.08.2024. Name of work:** Electrification of Station buildings, platforms, circulating area, approach roads, staff quarters, pumps, services building, LG Gates and switching stations etc. in connection with doubling of CUR-SDLPT (57.08 kms) section. **Approximate cost of the work:** Rs. 2,25,44,177/- **Earnest Money to be deposited:** Rs. 2,62,700/- **Date of Completion of work:** 12 Months. **Date & Time of closing E-Tender:** 24.09.2024 Upto 15:00 Hrs. **Date & Time of opening E-Tender:** 24.09.2024 at 15:30 Hrs. The details of above E-Tender are available on Website: www.ireps.gov.in 1006-AR/24

Follow us on: www.ireps.gov.in | www.nwrailways.gov.in | www.nwrailways.gov.in

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

OPEN TENDER THROUGH E-TENDERING

CWM/Carriage & Wagon workshop North Western Railway Bikaner acting for and on behalf of the president of India invites E-Tender No. 10R-MECH-BKNW-IQH-24 Closing Date: 19.09.2024. Name of work and its location: Bogie Dismantling, Cleaning, Scraping & Painting of ICF BG bogies and Removal & Cleaning of Axle boxes and Cleaning of roller bearing & other components of ICF Wheel Sets at Carriage & Wagon Workshop, NWR, Bikaner. **Estimated Cost of work:** Rs. 60,66,276.00 (inclusive of GST). **Earnest money:** Rs. 1,21,300/- **Last Date and time for submission and opening of E-tender:** 19.09.2024 up to 14:30 Hrs. E-Tender will be opened at 15:00 Hrs. on same day. Website particular where complete details of e-tender can be seen: www.ireps.gov.in 1004-AR/24

Follow us on: www.ireps.gov.in | www.nwrailways.gov.in | www.nwrailways.gov.in

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER GWALIOR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION GWALIOR (M.P.)

File No.: 416/23/3-PTU
Tender Id: 2023_UAD_300951_5
Dated : 28-08-2024

Notice Inviting Tender (5th Call)

जलकरंज रोड ब्रान्च 416, रॉक 28-08-2024

Gwalior Municipal Corporation, Gwalior invites Bids from eligible Bidders for the Project/Work(s) detailed in the following table The Bidders shall submit Bids for all of the following Project/Work(s):

Work	Estimated Project cost	EMD	Tender Cost	Completion/Implementation Period (Months)	Operation & Comprehensive Maintenance Period	date & Time
Selection of Agency for Design Engineering Supply Erection Installation Commissioning and Testing of Shed Mounted 400KW Grid Connected Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant for Compression Bypass (CBG) Plant along with 05 Years of Operation & Comprehensive Maintenance on CAPEX Model at Gwalior Municipal Corporation Gwalior (M.P.) Under National Clean Air Program	1,66,10170/-	83,051/-	15,000/-	6 Month (180 days)	01 year DLP + 05 Years Operation & Comprehensive Maintenance	From 24-08-24 10:30 AM To 06-09-24 05:30 PM

•Detailed NIT & Bid Documents can be seen at the website <https://mptenders.gov.in> and can be downloaded from the same.

•Any subsequent addendum/corrigendum shall be published only at website <https://mptenders.gov.in>.

•The Bid Documents can be purchased only Online as per the online key dates.

•Excluding GST as per government Norms.

Executive Engineer Gwalior Municipal Corporation



ICFRE-FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE
P.O. New Forest, Dehradun-248006, Uttarakhand

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

NIT No. 42-86/2024-25/HOD/EngineeringCell/Civil

The Head, Engineering Cell, FRI, Dehradun invites on behalf of Director, FRI Dehradun online item rate bids from approved and eligible contractors of CPWD, MES, Railways, P & T, State PWD & other Govt. and Semi-Govt. Department including local bodies etc.:-

Sl. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost Rs.	Earnest Money Rs.	Tender fee including GST Rs.	Time of Completion	Last date and time of online submission of the bid
1.	Making Almirah cabinets with toughened glass on existing steel structure in Xylarium I at ICFRE-FRI. (Tender Id No. 2024_ICFRE_823394_1)	15,29,400/-	30,600/-	590/-	60 days	14-09-2024 up-to 11:00 A.M.

2. The tender forms and other details can be obtained from the website <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>.

Head
Engineering Cell
ICFRE-Forest Research Institute
Dehradun

MUTHOOT FINCORP LTD. | GOLD AUCTION NOTICE

Regd. Office: Muthoot Centre, TC No 27/322, Punnem Road, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India - 695001.
CIN : U65929KL1997PLC011518, Ph: +91 471 4911400, 2331427

Notice is hereby given for the information of all concerned that Gold ornaments pledged with under mentioned branches of the company for the period upto 30.09.2023 & MSGL, SPL-16, One plus, Gold Preadip, Super value, ADGL and all other 6 months tenure Gold loans up to 31.12.2023 and MSGB, SME Saurabh & EMI due up to 30.06.2024 which were overdue for redemption and which have not been redeemed so far for resale of repeated reasons, will be auctioned from 10.09.2024 from 10 am.

BHAGALPUR DISTRICT - BHAGALPUR: 431400041, 431400058, 431400059, 431400060, 431400061, 431400062, 431400063, 431400064, 431400065, 431400066, 431400067, 431400068, 431400069, 431400070, 431400071, 431400072, 431400073, 431400074, 431400075, 431400076, 431400077, 431400078, 431400079, 431400080, 431400081, 431400082, 431400083, 431400084, 431400085, 431400086, 431400087, 431400088, 431400089, 431400090, 431400091, 431400092, 431400093, 431400094, 431400095, 431400096, 431400097, 431400098, 431400099, 431400100, 431400101, 431400102, 431400103, 431400104, 431400105, 431400106, 431400107, 431400108, 431400109, 431400110, 431400111, 431400112, 431400113, 431400114, 431400115, 431400116, 431400117, 431400118, 431400119, 431400120, 431400121, 431400122, 431400123, 431400124, 431400125, 431400126, 431400127, 431400128, 431400129, 431400130, 431400131, 431400132, 431400133, 431400134, 431400135, 431400136, 431400137, 431400138, 431400139, 431400140, 431400141, 431400142, 431400143, 431400144, 431400145, 431400146, 431400147, 431400148, 431400149, 431400150,

20 REVIEWS

CINEMA & MUSIC

Bells and Whistles

AFRAID

★★★

Director: Chris Weitz
Cast: John Cho, Katherine Waterston, Havana Rose Liu, Lukita Maxwell, Wyatt Lindner, Isaac Bae



SHALINI LANGER

PERHAPS THE worst thing that can be said about *Afraid* (or, as it calls itself ambitiously at some places, *AfriAId*) is that the script could have done with an artificial intelligence check.

A ChatGPT edit may have rescued this story about a pretty credible family, headed by two fine actors (Cho, Waterston), that unwittingly brings what is described as a far-far advanced version of Alexa into its lives. What starts off as a film we could live with, at least on a dull weekend at home, ends as a mess where someone lost interest halfway in.

Writer-director Chris Weitz has an impressive resume in both writing, and directing, from *American Pie* (uncredited) to *About a Boy* and a Twilight film, plus one Oscar nomination. In how he sets the stage, about two harried parents raising three children of different ages, raising time, tide and technology, that touch shows.

Then, one day, Curtis (Cho) lands a new untested AI device, named 'AIA' and pronounced as 'aayah' – which promises to be a friend, helper, problem-solver and organiser, all rolled into one. The company making it has approached his marketing firm to sell it and his own family is seen as the perfect sample to put AI to test – in turn helping him package it for clients better.

Wife Meredith (Waterston) has a little bit of the artist in her – she studies animals, but has put her doctoral thesis on hold to be a stay-at-home 'mom', a description she chafes against. Hence, she is initially sceptical about AIA, especially about its 'eyes' or cameras which are put around the house by the installation team.

But then AIA unveils the taste of all that it can take off the hands of a home-maker, and Meredith changes her mind. AIA also goes about wooing the children by catering to each specifically: the youngest Cal can now go to sleep to bedtime stories that mom often can't find time for, the middle-schooler Preston can bypass screen time and take on schoolmates who have sidelined him, and 17-year-old Iris whose boyfriend has been twisting her hand to share her nude pictures can get back.

How Iris's whole life is turned upside down and then put back together again in the form AIA deems fit, in all the time it takes for the teenager to walk down a school corridor, is slickly done.

It's interesting the problems the film puts up before its characters. And anyone with two squabbling kids knows how tempting it is to take any help – even if from a screen. But then the Blumhouse factory production decides the scares must roll in, and without logic or any alignment with what its characters have been doing, and at senseless speed, *Afraid* runs with it.

Cautionary tales about AI have never had a better moment than now, when even industry leaders have warned of 'human extinction'. Surely, handling one family should have been a nanosecond's work for it.



Cruising at a Fine Altitude

IC 814: THE KANDAHAR HIJACK ★★★

Director: Anubhav Sinha **Cast:** Vijay Varma, Naseeruddin Shah, Pankaj Kapur, Patralekhaa Paul, Additi Gupta Chopra, Arvind Swami, Manoj Pahwa, Kumud Mishra, Anupam Tripathi, Dia Mirza, Armita Puri, Aditya Srivastava, Dibyendu Bhattacharya, Yashpal Sharma, Kanwaljit Singh, Sushant Singh **Streaming on:** Netflix

SHUBHRA GUPTA

THE HIJACKING of Indian Airlines 814 in December 1999, the convoluted way the week-long hostage situation played out in far-flung locations, and its fall-out which is felt even today, became a case study in 'How Not To Handle A Hijack'. Or, let me amend that: 'How To Fumble Your Way To Defuse A Crisis Hoping Someone Else Would Do It'.

A 180 people, which included the crew and passengers, were held at gunpoint by five masked men for seven terrifying days, during which one person died, and another was badly injured. Based on the book, *Flight Into Fear*, by Captain Devi Sharan and journalist Srinjoy Chowdhury, and directed by Anubhav Sinha, *IC 814 The Kandahar Hijack* recreates that tense week, through which the plane passed through multiple airports (Kathmandu, Amritsar, Lahore, Dubai, and finally, Kandahar), with tempers rising among the hijackers, and with multiple Indian agencies casting about to find a way out.

Twenty-five years on, the scars that the survivors carry still ache. In the mark left on Captain Devi Sharan's (Vijay Varma) neck where a pistol was pressed for endless hours, which is still visible. As well as those invisible to the naked eye, on the souls of those who could see the need to take tough calls, but were not able to for reasons that the six-part series tries to unpack.

One of the most effective elements of the series, which gets better as it goes along (a certain degree of slackness in the first four is made up for the last two, which are absolutely terrific), is the restraint it manages

to sustain: keeping high-pitched melodrama at bay, and even more importantly, keeping the background music muted, letting us focus on the action, which is split between the interiors of the airbus, and the high-powered rooms in New Delhi where multiple meetings, fuelled with adrenaline and caffeine, are underway.

The other is how the politics of the time – Atal Bihari Vajpayee was the PM, Jaswant Singh was the Foreign Minister, and India did not recognise the Taliban government in Afghanistan – is played out in the defusing of the crisis.

Some of the courage in being able to spotlight what was seen as a massive blow to India's tough stance against terrorism is clearly because a few of the principal players have either faded into oblivion or have fallen out of favour of the present ruling dispensation.

The hijackers, who were given support by Osama Bin Laden and Al-Qaeda, demanded the release of many of their compatriots, including Harkat-ul-Mujahideen leader Masoor Azhar and Ahmed Omar Saeed Shaikh, who were in Indian prisons. The mutterings of 'we will not do this, whatever the cost' were quieted, and the exchange – hostages for dreaded terrorists – went through.

We see the backroom dealings, with its many pushes and pulls, the failure of Indian intelligence agencies, with IB and RAW officials going at each other, and the *babus* busy trying to push the bad news as far away as possible (the PM was informed of the hijack several hours after it happened); Naseeruddin Shah and Pankaj Kapur (standing in for Jaswant Singh) trade infor-

mation, which could have been more pointed, spending as they do more time in walking to and fro between their stations: the two speak in undertones, mentioning 'PM Saab', but their portions remain mad-deningly opaque, except a climactic break-out scene which Kapur owns. The weightier barbs and dickering take place between the men whose diplomatic and negotiating skills carry the day – Arvind Swami, whom we must see more of, Kumud Mishra, Manoj Pahwa (wonderful, as always, in a Sinha project), and Dibyendu Bhattacharya.

Anupam Tripathi is effective as an intelligence officer based in Kathmandu, where this whole thing starts, getting to run about in dark alleys and uncover unpalatable truths; so is the ever-reliable Yashpal Sharma softening one of the terrorists on the hijackers' wish list, slipping in a sliver of menace in his affable demeanour. In all of this – a crowded canvas and a large ensemble – an actor like Kanwaljit barely gets a look-in, which feels like a waste.

The part where the show nearly lost me is when it turns to two journalists, played by Dia Mirza and Amrita Puri, who are shown bickering over how to cover the story: how much to reveal, and how much to conceal, especially when a crisis is unfolding, in the interests of containing public hysteria, is something real-life newsrooms deal with all the time. But Hindi cinema and its creators just do not know how to do this aspect with any believability, so may be they should desist.

And perhaps the overall tone could have been sharper, but given that the same party is in power, even this much seems brave,

especially where it's made clear that the NSG (headed by Sushant Singh in an all-too-brief appearance) arrived too late for a rescue operation, where it's shown how the bureaucrats dithered and delayed, and how the powers that be buckled in and released the three terrorists and were even escorted by FM Jaswant Singh (we see a glimpse of the real-life Singh, as well as Vajpayee in the series) to Kandhar.

It's only fitting then that the real heroes, confined to the plane, win big. Imagine yourself in an enclosed space, overrun by unstable men and weapons, sanitation gone for a toss, toilets clogged and overflowing, and unbearable stench: how would you deal with it? The responsibility for keeping everyone calm was down to the crew. Vijay Varma is outstanding as the beleaguered captain who powers through the ordeal, despite the very real fear of the unthinkable: what if they all die? The two air hostesses who keep their flock together are played well by Patralekhaa and Additi Gupta Chopra, the latter much better in some bits.

IC 814 is handsomely produced and directed, for the most part, with acuity. There have been many Indian films on terrorists and hostage situations, and some have been better than others. This one keeps it grounded, even when it's in the air, and manages to distribute the tension evenly throughout.

Even after so many years, we are grateful for the lives that were saved, layered with a sombre realisation of what the operation, whose deepest layers will forever stay hidden, resulted in.

Win some, lose some.

One of the main reasons why *The Killer* is a better movie than what this description makes it sound like is the fact that it is directed by a master filmmaker and not somebody executing a for-hire gig. Gloriously over-the-top, often ridiculous, but packed with plenty of flourishes, the movie enhances what could've been an instantly forgettable plot with an authorship that has become all but absent in the streaming era. Woo delivers on the gunfights, considering he has practically pioneered the art of 'gun-fu' in his Hong Kong movies.

Wracked by guilt, Zee wants nothing more than to save Jenn from all the cruel men out to kill her. This is where the gender-swap benefits the picture, and not only because a romantic angle would've come across as slightly outdated and mildly creepy. We learn very little about her past, but it's just about enough to fuel our investment in her. *The Killer* isn't a movie you watch for the plot; it's a movie you watch only to experience a genre master replaying his greatest hits.



where Zee's morality comes in. "Do they deserve this death?" she always asks before being sent on an assignment. And this time, she knows that the answer is 'no'. Chased by a cop (Omar Sy) and pressured by the local godfather played by Eric Cantona of all people, Zee takes matters into her own hands.

STREAMING WATCH LIST

BY ALAKA SAHANI



POLITE SOCIETY

NETFLIX
WRITTEN AND directed by Nida Manzoor, *Polite Society* is set in the UK, and follows martial artist-in-training Ria Khan (Priya Kansara), who believes she must save her older sister Lena (Ritu Arya) from her impending marriage. With help from her friends, Ria attempts to pull off an ambitious wedding heist in the name of independence.



THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE RINGS OF POWER S2
PRIME VIDEO

WITH THE Dark Lord's ominous return, the new season is likely to be filled with darker secrets as Sauron rises to reclaim his power. Spilling the beans on Sauron's return, co-creator Patrick McKay shares, "We're going to watch as he uses deception, manipulation, lies, coercion, and cunning to set the chess pieces in motion."



MUNJYA

DISNEY+HOTSTAR
BORROWING FROM Indian mythology and folklore, this horror-comedy by Maddock Films traces a young man's visit to his native village in Konkan that unveils a family secret and a vengeful spirit, Munjya, who wants to marry his childhood love. Now, the young man must fight to protect himself and his love from Munjya's evil intentions. The film is directed by Aditya Sarpotdar.



MURSHID

ZEE5
SET AGAINST the dangerous underworld of Mumbai, *Murshid* is a story that unfolds in a treacherous world. Kay Kay Menon plays the role of Murshid Pathan, a retired don forced back into the criminal fray when his son is implicated in a deadly conspiracy. With enemies closing in and allies turning traitor, Murshid must navigate shifting alliances and buried secrets to protect his family.

Loose Ends

ONLY MURDERS IN THE BUILDING (SEASON 4) ★★★

Directors: John Hoffman, Chris Koch, Jessica Yu, Shari Berman, Robert Pulcini
Cast: Steve Martin, Martin Short, Selena Gomez, Eugene Levy, Zach Galifianakis, Eva Longoria, Molly Shannon, Da'Vine Joy Randolph, Kumail Nanjiani, Melissa McCarthy, Meryl Streep
Streaming on: Disney+ Hotstar

SHUBHRA GUPTA

IT'S NO secret that I mark time restlessly between the gaps taken by the cast and crew of *Only Murders In The Building* – a show in which two spry senior citizens are joined by a slouchy millennial to solve murders which occur in their building with alarming frequency – to regroup for a new season.

While I didn't fall madly in love with the series when it began, the novelty of the premise kept me hooked. The second one was thoroughly enjoyable, and by the time the third season rolled around, I was hopelessly smitten.

And here they are for a fourth go-round, our real crime aficionados-cum-part-time-podcasters-cum-full-time-sleuths still-re-living-past-actor-glory Charles Haden-



Savage (Steve Martin), still-hoping-for-a Broadway-hit Oliver Putnam (Martin Short) and still-in-search-for-self Mabel Mora (Selena Gomez), which promises to be bigger

(Hollywood! More stars than you can count! Razzle-dazzle!) and better.

Having watched seven episodes, I can safely say that the third season's smoothness smartness and sharpness, a tough combo to pull off, feels very much like a pinnacle.

The new season (co-creators Steve Martin and John Hoffman share writing credits; the two executive-produce along with Martin Short, Selena Gomez, Dan Fogelman and Jeff Rosenthal) opens with the gang landing in LA to partake in the manic chatter around a movie being made on their exploits.

It's a lovely gambit, these three acting all overjoyed-overwhelmed-intimidated in their plush Hollywood surrounding, fronted by an appropriately manic producer (Molly Shannon), and followed by the real-life actors – Eugene Levy, Zach Galifianakis, and Eva Longoria – who will play them.

But movies, and of course dizzying star-

dom and pots of money, can wait. Back in Arconia, their beloved building in an equally plush part of NYC, is the job we care about: for them to pick up the trail of a body. Could it be the missing Sazz Pataki (Jane Lynch), Charles' long-time double and old pal?

As always, and perhaps even more than before, there is a veritable feast of suspects, and the trio busies itself in doing what they do best, bumbling about, discovering dark truths lurking in corners of their building, exchanging one-liners, and staving off the cop-who-shows-up-when-things-get-murky (Da'Vine Joy Randolph), who always wants them to spill the tea on things they have no clue about.

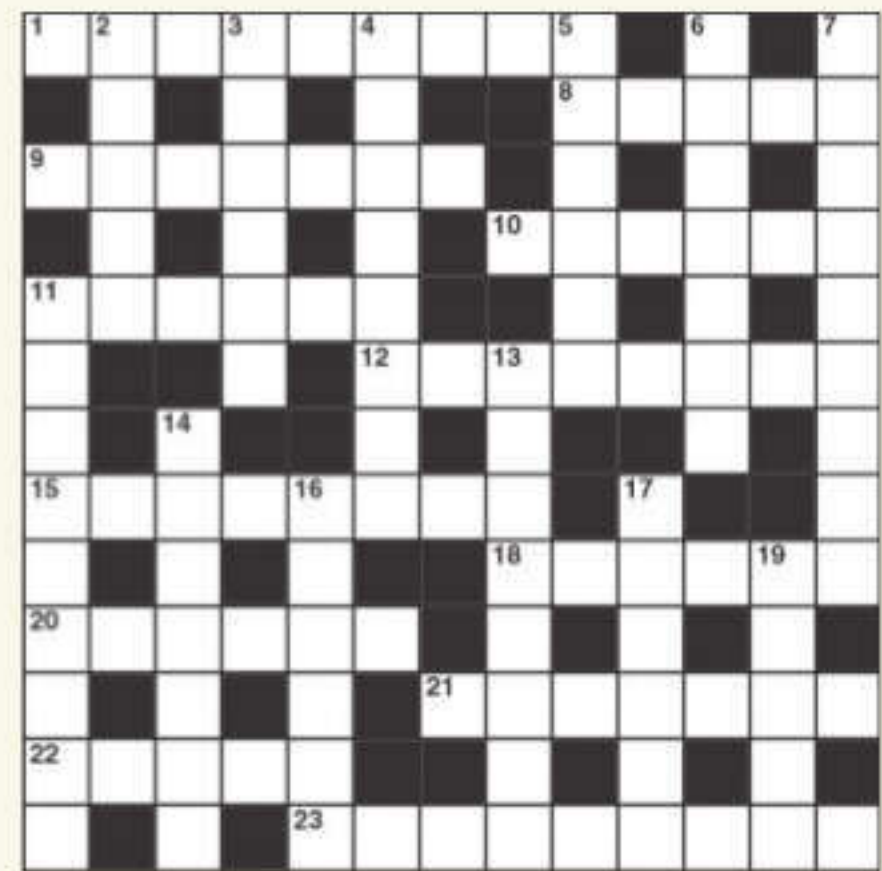
But despite the cross-continental to-ing and fro-ing, and the march of the many starry exhibits, I've found my interest flagging. You don't need to be a crack investigator to know that the novelty factor of this unlikely trio was going to wear off. That was always on

the cards, given how long they have been schlepping about in search of killers, while looking out for each other, with touching care and concern.

Much of the charm of the show lay in how their interactions felt consistently fresh and funny. But here they aren't in great company. Their stand-ins come off decidedly, and surprisingly, dull. The fleet-footedness of the show – not making enough of the beautifully apt idea of naming each episode after movie classics, among other things – seems to have stalled, leaving us seeking intermittent pleasures.

Which is still largely vested, thanks be, in the original threesome who seem perfectly capable of being in their own movie. Three climactic episodes remain, and there is one terrific sequence somewhere down the line which I can't reveal. Can they help prop up what came before? I live in hope.

CROSSWORD 5457



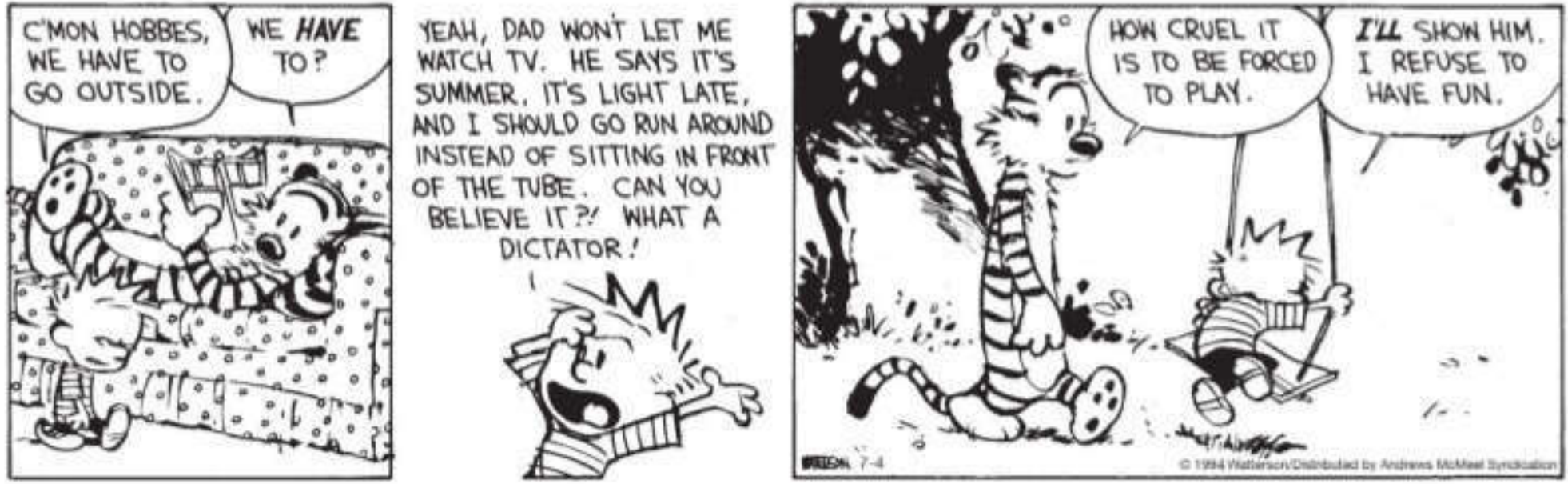
- ACROSS
- 1 Farms torn apart in change (9)
- 8 Make sure your slip isn't showing (5)
- 9 Prospect for one facing dismissal (7)
- 10 Japanese wear for doctor in family circle (6)
- 11 Sort of butter made from vegetable and fruit (6)
- 12 He's concerned with his image being badly tailored (8)
- 15 An everyday conclusion (8)
- 18 I spoil the games figuratively speaking (6)
- 20 An innate ability to make money (6)
- 21 Eton is of note (7)
- 22 He makes one cross at times (5)
- 23 Having the look of a powerful flyer (5-4)
- DOWN
- 2 Cheeky make-up (5)
- 3 Stockings only put out in the North and South (6)
- 4 Lash a container inside and on the surface (8)
- 5 Your humble servant (6)
- 6 In such agreement cash too is involved (7)
- 7 Properly cared most for US party members (9)
- 11 Original sort of painting? (9)
- 13 I plan too haphazardly but it's a matter of choice (8)
- 14 Lavish praise (7)
- 16 Give no consideration (6)
- 17 Bargain egg: note damage (6)
- 19 Stimulate with elevating tale; an eye-opener (5)

Solutions Crossword 5456 Across: 1 Algebra, 4 Spiel, 7 Toot, 8 Flushing, 10 Centipedes, 12 Powder, 13 Capers, 15 Cornfields, 18 Cast-iron, 19 Eyre, 20 Seedy, 21 Decided Down: 1 Antic, 2 Good news, 3 Allies, 4 Systematic, 5 Ibis, 6 Legends, 9 Life policy, 11 Deployed, 12 Pierces, 14 Unfold, 16 Speed, 17 Isle

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

Being a has taught me to hide, but being an has opened my soul. - Meryl Streep (9,...,5)

IAEER

EUYCLT

AIORT

ABRCY

SOLUTION: AENE, RATTO, CUTLEY, GRABBY
Answer: Being a celebrity has taught me to hide, but being an actor has opened my soul.

SUDOKU 5669

Difficulty Level 5s
Instructions
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

SOLUTION SUDOKU 5668

Difficulty Level
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Vipin@Arun, S/o: Raj Kumar, R/o H.N. R-683 Mangolpuri, Delhi**, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR No. 1007/2014, U/s: 376(E)/34 IPC, Police Station, Mangolpuri, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Vipin@Arun**, cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Vipin@Arun**, has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).
Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Vipin@Arun** of **FIR No. 1007/2014, U/s: 376(E)/34 IPC, Police Station, Mangolpuri, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **15.10.2024**.

By Order
Sh. Rishabh Kapoor,
Metropolitan Magistrate,
North-West, Court No. 105
Rohini Court, Delhi

DP/11365/OD/2024

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 (2) (ii) CrPC
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Namely: Sanjay Kumar, S/o: Vidya Sagar, R/o: 8E-32/5, Block BE Hari Nagar, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in a case vide **Case No.346/18 U/s 138 NI Act** registered at **P.S Moti Nagar, Delhi** and it has been returned on a warrant of arrest thereupon issued stating that the said **Sanjay Kumar** could not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that accused **Sanjay Kumar** absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).
Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Sanjay Kumar** is required to appear before the court to answer the said complaint on or before **01.10.2024**.

By Order
Karanbir Singh
MM-05 (NI ACT)
Room No.04, Annex-I,
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

DP/11514/WD/2024

Office of the Executive Engineer, P.W.D. Dn. Sri Ganganagar (Raj.)

No. EEG/NIT/2024-25/1535 Dated: 27/08/2024
Notice Inviting Bid No. 06 Year 2024-25
NIB code PWD2425A 1284
Bid for "सड़क का चौड़ाईकरण एवं सुदृढीकरण का कार्य" are invited from interested bidders from dated 02.09.2024 to 23.09.2024 up to 6.00 PM and will be opened on 24.09.2024 at 4.00 PM. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://proc.rajjasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.rajjac.in>) of the state and departmental website. The approximate value of the procurement is **Rs. 375.82 lacs & No. of works are 01.**
1 UBN No. PWD2425 WSOB04641
Sd/-
Executive Engineer
P.W.D. Dn. Sri Ganganagar
DIPRC/7945/2024

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

See Section U/S 82 Cr. P.C.
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Karan Dua S/o Shiv Kumar Dua R/o H.No. F-8, Bali Nagar, near Ramesh Nagar Metro Station, Ramesh Nagar West, Delhi-110015** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **Regd. No. 5842/2020 U/s 138 NI Act, P.S. Burari, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Karan Dua** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Karan Dua** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).
Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Karan Dua** of case **Regd. No. 5842/2020 U/s 138 NI Act, P.S. Burari, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **03.10.2024**.

By Order
Ms. Divya Gupta
Metropolitan Magistrate (NI Act)-05, (Central)
Room No. 2, Ground Floor, Court Building Annexe-1
DIP/11561/N/2024(Court Matter) Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY "THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT TENDERS"

TENDER NOTICE No. S/2024/71

Date : 30.08.2024

The Principal Chief Material Manager, North Western Railway, headquarter 3rd floor, Near Jawahar circle, Malviya Nagar, Jaipur-302017 for and on behalf of the President of India invites Open E-tenders on www.irops.gov.in site as follows. All the E-tenders will be closed at **14.25 hrs.**

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty	Unit	Due Date
1	50245216	Supply of Electric Point Machine Rotary Locking type High Thrust of 220MM	95	Nos.	07.10.2024
2	6323ENG 14B	Running Contract for Manufacturing and supply of 1m long Combination Fishplates	3200	Set	16.09.2024
3	38240119	Stranded Annealed Copper Jumper Wire of Size 160 SQ.mm	4003	Mtr	16.10.2024
4	50245174	Relay AC immune plug in type style QNA1	3266	Nos.	25.09.2024
5	30242175B	Axle box pivot bush	4744	Nos.	21.10.2024

CORRIGENDUM				
Sr. No	Tender No.	Description	Tender Notice No.	Existing Closing Date Revised Closing Date Amendment in NIT Condition
1	6324ENG 03	Running Contract for Manufacture & supply of metal Liner	S/2024/68 Dated 09.08.2024	05.09.2024 06.09.2024 Some NIT condition deleted

Note: (1) Interested tenderers may visit the website www.irops.gov.in for Full details/Description/Specification/ EMD & tender cost etc. All tenderers are requested to obtain digital signatures and get them registered on above site and quote electronically only. (2) For viewing and participating in other tenders such as open tender costing below Rs. 25 Lakhs, limited tenders, special limited tenders and low value tenders, please visit www.irops.gov.in

1007-AR/24

Follow us on [f](#) [i](#) [in](#) /NWRRailways [in](#) NWRRailways

DAY TODAY BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

♈

Seldom have you been in such a position to make decisive moves. You're finding it easier than in the past to take decisions without arousing opposition from close colleagues. That's a special skill, and will stand you in good stead in the future.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

♉

You're not supposed to be an intellectual, yet Mercury's relationship to radical, revolutionary, inventive Uranus has been supplying you with the best and brightest ideas in town. You have the chance to prove all your detractors and critics completely wrong.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

♊

The Moon now turns your attention back towards routine issues of survival. Over the next few weeks you must ensure that any new offers or alterations in your earnings will be to your advantage. It's all about making certain that your dreams come true.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

♋

Even those who were once so close or supportive may now be going their own ways. Don't panic: partners, colleagues and associates will be doing you a good turn if they loosen the bonds even a little. Perhaps you should have the confidence to stand on your own feet.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

♌

Shaken, but not stirred - that's what your planets are at the moment! Even unwelcome will be to your advantage in the long run, such is the beneficial power to be felt from the Sun influencing the region of your chart dealing with long-term hopes and wishes.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

♍

Current planetary activity is forcing you to look outside the narrow limits of your current existence. If you wish to resuscitate long-buried ambitions, especially in the personal sphere, now is your chance. This time you can do it without worrying about other people's opposition.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

♎

Five planets in angles of your chart ruling home and work are bound to raise major issues. The question is whether the emotional satisfaction you receive from public affairs will be sufficient to take your mind off certain family or domestic frustrations.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

♏

You have made the right moves, and now it is up to others to make the required concessions. However, if you start being unreasonable, events may eventually blow up in your face. Give them all the space they need to come to terms with their own behaviour.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)

♐

Partners now need to have their say. You must be prepared to wait a little longer before you see your plans and ideas put into practice. And do remember that, for the next four weeks, certain additional restrictions will be placed on your freedom of action.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

♑

You're not in control of circumstances at the moment. One plan or proposition cannot be developed much further until others prove they are ready to play their full part. I can see that any help and assistance you require will be forthcoming just as soon as you say the word.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

♒

Being so emotional, the Moon can be an irritating influence from the Aquarian point of view. You may be reminded of a number of responsibilities that you would rather forget or push to one side. But, then, it's always uncomfortable to face the truth.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

♓

You may be feeling rather restricted or restless, but I hope that today's gentle lunar alignments will calm you down. You will realise that it is no good longing for another time or place and that it's where you are now that counts. The answers are right under your nose.

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Muneer Miya, S/o Munna, R/o L- 219 Sunder Nagari Delhi** have committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 187/2015 dt. 10.03.2015 U/s 379/411 IPC P.S. GTB Enclave Delhi**, has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Muneer Miya** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Muneer Miya** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).
Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Muneer Miya** accused of **FIR No. 187/2015 dt. 10.03.2015 U/s 379/411 IPC P.S. GTB Enclave Delhi**, is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **01.10.2024**.

By Order
MS. Sanghmitra
J.M.F.C - 01 SHD,
Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

DP/11476/SHD/2024

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(SEE SECTION 82 Cr.P.C.)
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person(s) **Ram Kishor S/o Rattan Lal R/o E-1140, Jahangirpuri, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR No. 167/2021, U/s 279/338 IPC, PS Mahindra Park, Distt. North-West, Delhi** and it has been returned to a Warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person(s) **Ram Kishor** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person(s) **Ram Kishor** has absconded (or is concealing herself to avoid the service of the said warrant).
Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person(s) **Ram Kishor** of **FIR No. 167/2021, U/s 279/338 IPC, PS Mahindra Park, Distt. North-West, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before dated **01.10.2024 at 10:00 AM**.

By Order
Ms. Niharika Kumar Sharma
A.C.M.M. (North)
Room No. 117, 1st Floor,
Rohini Courts, Delhi

DP/11503/NW/2024 (Court Matter)

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Sarfray S/o Mahrum Md. Suleman R/o H-98, Gali No. 4, Prem Nagar, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence case **FIR No. 0361/2019 u/s 365/379/411 IPC** at **P.S. Nangloi, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Sarfray** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Sarfray** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).
Proceeding u/s 82 Cr.P.C. has been initiated in the case. Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Sarfray** accused of mitted (or is suspected to have committed) the offence case **FIR No. 0361/2019 u/s 365/379/411 IPC** at **P.S. Nangloi, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on **28.11.2024**.

By Order
Ms. Charu Asiwail,
Metropolitan Magistrate-05 (West),
Room No.-336A, Third Floor,
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

DP/11539/OD/2024

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, सांनिवि० वृत्त हनुमानगढ़
क्रमांक:- 314 दिनांक:- 27.08.2024
ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या 07/2024-25
इच्छुक निविदादाताओं से सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, वृत्त हनुमानगढ़ के अधीन सड़क निर्माण कार्यों हेतु (यस पाँच वर्ष के योग्य निवारण व सुचारु अर्थव्यवस्था) और लाइन निविदा हेतु दिनांक 17.09.2024 तक 6.00 बजे तक ऑनलाइन की जाती है। उक्त निविदा से सम्बन्धित पूर्ण विवरण राज्य सरकार के प्रोक्युरमेंट पोर्टल <http://sppp.rajjasthan.gov.in>, <http://eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in> व विभागिय वेबसाइट <https://pwd.rajjasthan.gov.in> पर देखे जा सकते हैं।
निविदा का अनुमति प्राप्त 807.86 लाख रुपये है।
कार्य का एन.एच.बी. नं.- PWD2425A1275
शुद्धीकरण नं.- PWD2425WSOB04615, PWD2425WSOB04641
हस्ता:-
अधीक्षण अभियन्ता
सा.निवि. वृत्त हनुमानगढ़
No: DIPRC/7930/2024

UJVNL Limited
H.O. : "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, CMS Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephone: 0135-2763806, Fax No.: 0135-2763508
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025868, Website: www.ujvnl.com
R.O. No. 763 Short Term e-Tender Notice Dated 29.08.2024
Office of Executive Engineer (M) Ramganga Power Station, UJVNL Limited, Kalagarh, Distt. Pauri Garhwal invites online tender from interested parties. Detail of tender is given below.
e-T. No. 12/EE(M)/RPSK/2024-25
Name of work/supply/services etc. : Coating on under water parts of unit-03.
Estimated cost : Rs. 93.12,161/- GST extra.
Date of availability of bid document on website : 30/08/2024
Last date for submission of bid on website: 13/09/2024 upto 16.00 Hrs.
Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "<http://ukenders.gov.in/>"
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity" EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (M)

BHAKRA BEAS MANAGEMENT BOARD (POWER WING)
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER
E- NIT No. :- 01/OMD/2024-25 Dated: 21.08.2024
Name of Office : Executive Engineer, O&M Divn., BBMB, Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi- 35.
Name of Work : Mtc. of Non-residential buildings at 220 KV Sub-station BBMB, Delhi.
Document downloading 21.08.2024 - 17:00 hrs. onwards
Receipt of Bids online 18.09.2024 upto 17:00 hrs.
Opening time 20.09.2024 - 12:00 hrs. onwards
For detailed NIT including Pre-Qualifying conditions and EMD, please visit BBMB website: www.bbmb.gov.in or www.etenders.gov.in.
1559-PR TS-4 For your Better Tomorrow Save Energy Today

OFFICE OF CHIEF ENGINEER (URBAN & NRW), PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, JAL BHAWAN, 2-CIVIL LINES JAIPUR, RAJASTHAN 15063-95 / 23-8-2024
BID NOTICE
On behalf of the Governor of Rajasthan, PHED invites online bids in electronic format on website <http://eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in>, from manufacturers for Procurement of ISI Marked Poly Aluminium Chloride conforming to IS 15573:2005 amended/revised upto date and Procurement of ISI Marked Bleaching Powder stable type -I conforming to IS 1065 (Part-2): Treatment of Water intended for Drinking (19) (amended/revised up to Date). For more details kindly visit website www.sppp.rajjasthan.gov.in & <http://eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in>.
NIB CODE: PHE2425A1773
UBN CODE: (PAC):PHE2425GLRC03916
(ii) BLEACHING POWDER: PHE2425GLRC03915
Sd/-
(SURENDR SHARMA)
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
MATERIAL MANAGEMENT CIRCLE
PHED RAJASTHAN, JAIPUR
DIPRC/7848/2024

ANDHRA PRADESH POWER GENERATION CORPORATION LIMITED VIDYUT SOUDHA: VIJAYAWADA
NIT No. 610001677
APGENCO invites open tender for "Design, Engineering, Testing, offering for Inspection, Packing & Forwarding. Supply (Including Transit Insurance & unloading at site) of Spares required for Ash Handling, Plant with all accessories including Mandatory spares, maintenance Tools & Tackles and Dismantling of existing materials & Erection of the supplied materials including, Testing and commissioning, required to improve the performance of the Ash Handling System pertains to 2x210MW Units of Stage-III of Dr.NTTPS and providing O&M support for a period of 3 years for Ash Handling System pertains to 2x210MW Units of Stage-III of Dr.NTTPS. Schedule available date & time: from 28.08.2024 onwards
Bid submission closing date & time: 13.00 Hrs on 19.09.2024
For further details visit website <https://etender.apgenco.gov.in/rj/portal>
R.O. No. 3146PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2021-22 Dt: 30.08.2024

Avani makes India glitter

Shooter bounces back to win gold at Paris Paralympics after surgery for painful gallbladder stones as the country clinches three shooting medals

NITIN SHARMA
CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 30

TWO SHOOTERS on the podium for gold and bronze in the women's 10 metre air rifle and a silver in the men's 10m air pistol capped a glorious afternoon for Indian shooting on the second day of the Paralympics.

Avani Lekhara, 22, became the first Indian to win back-to-back Paralympic gold medals and in the process erased her own Paralympic record with an amazing 249.7. Thirty-seven-year-old Mona Agarwal, a mother of two, won the bronze to make it a special afternoon at the Chateauroux Shooting Centre.

A couple of hours later Manish Narwal won a silver in the men's 10m air pistol, his second straight medal in the Paralympics, the first a gold in the men's 50m pistol (SH1) in Tokyo.

After a slow start Manish, 22, recovered to finish with a score of 234.9.

The trio has had to battle the odds to reach the pinnacle of their sport. Avani was paralysed after a car accident when she was 11. A medical treatment error by doctors at the time of his birth resulted in nerve damage to Manish's right shoulder, which hampered the movement of the right arm. Nearly two years ago, Manish lost his elder brother who was involved in a road accident. For six months he didn't shoot as he was depressed. Mona contracted polio as a child, which affected both her legs. Her husband says that she was taunted for being a girl child and because of polio. On Friday, Avani, Mona and Manish wore broad smiles as they wore medals around their necks and posed for the cameras.

"I am happy to win a medal for my country. I am thankful to my team, my coaches and my parents," Avani said after winning the gold.

Avani is not done yet. Her gold on Friday will give her a confidence boost ahead of the 50m rifle 3-positions event, where she is also a favourite for a medal. She had won a bronze in this event in the previous edition of the Games in Tokyo.

Gallbladder surgery

Closer to the Paralympics, Avani had to make a major decision — whether to opt for surgery for gallbladder stones. She was in pain but continued to train with an eye on glory at the Paralympics. But as months passed, the pain started to affect her training. The worry was that the pain could become unbearable closer to the Paralympics and could jeopardise her chances of defending her gold.

"Gallbladder stones had been troubling her since 2023. It also affected her training as the recurring pain around the stomach and waist would affect her ability to train for as long as she usually would. Avani wanted to give her best at the Paris Paralympics. So we decided to get the gallbladder removed in March this year. It took her some time to recover. But at the end of the tough year, she has achieved a historic feat," Praveen Kumar Lekhara, Avani's father, told *The Indian Express*.

At the Tokyo Paralympics, the then 19-year-old shooter had created history when she became the second Indian to win multiple medals in the same Paralympics — gold in women's 10m air rifle (SH1) and bronze in 50m 3P event.

The last time an Indian won more medals than her at a single Paralympics was track and field star Joginder Singh Bedi — three at



Gold medalist Avani Lekhara (2nd from right) and bronze winner Mona Agarwal with their medals after Friday's final. *PTI*



Manish Narwal with his silver medal.

the 1984 games.

Avani's coach Chandra Shekar recalls how challenging it was for her to get back to shooting after a period of rest post-surgery.

"Post the surgery this year, she was advised to rest for two months and when she restarted her weakened muscles were the main challenge. So we returned to the basics for some days. Once she regained her strength, she was on track before Paris," recalls coach Shekar.

It was a fateful day in 2011, which set her on course to become a shooter. The family were involved in a car accident on the Jaipur-

How Avani won a nerve-wrecking final

IMPORTANT EARLY SHOTS: It was important for Avani to set the early pace but she started off with four 10s on the lower side. And then came a perfect 10.9 with her 5th shot, followed by a 10.8 with her 10th.

NEARLY A COSTLY MISS: Having led the final through the middle part, Avani briefly slid down to third before recovering. After Mona's elimination, it was down to Avani and Lee Yunri. Then, off the penultimate shot of the final, came a 9.9. Her heart must have sunk there briefly.

SENSATIONAL FINISH: What seemed like an assured silver, quickly turned to gold. Emphasis on quick, because Avani took her final shot so early for 10.5. Lee took her time, perhaps too long, to shoot a 6.8. Avani didn't just win gold with that shot, but also broke her own Paralympic Record. **ENS**

Dholpur highway. Avani, 11 years old back then, suffered spinal cord injuries and became paralyzed from the waist below.

"Post the accident, Avani would spend more than 90 days at SMS Hospital in Jaipur and then at the Indian Spinal Injury Centre in Delhi. It took her close to three years to regain some strength," her father recalled.

Three years after the accident, she started shooting at the Jagatpura Shooting Range. At first, she trained with a rented air rifle.

In 2015, Manish started shooting at the 10X academy in Ballabgarh where coach Rakesh Singh took him under his wings. Manish took up the sport at the insistence of his father Dilbagh Singh.

"Minutes after his birth, a mistake by doctors resulted in nerve damage. He was very young to understand what happened to him. But he was a very happy child. He would play with other children and also observe closely whatever sports they played. We never discussed that he is a person with a disability and that's the attitude he has grown up with," his father Dilbaug said.

He started shooting with a right-hand grip pistol using his left hand. "We did not have a left-hand grip pistol. So for more than a year, he would shoot using his left hand but with the right-hand grip pistol. It was tough but then he adjusted to that and would shoot good scores," coach Rakesh said.

However, there was a major setback in November 2022 when Manish lost his elder brother Manjeet in a road accident. Manish was practising at the shooting range when Manjeet's car and a water tanker collided. The two brothers were close and Manish mourned for days.

"From November 1, 2022, to today, Manish has remembered his brother every single day for these 668 days. It took Manish six months to pick up the gun again. Manish's Paralympics medal is for Manjeet. Manjeet would be cheering from the heavens," Dilbagh said.

QUEST FOR GOLD

ARCHER SHEETAL EYES MEDAL

After her impressive ranking round, 17-year-old Sheetal Devi is in medal contention as the women's compound open individual event concludes on Saturday. Sheetal and Sarita in fray from round of 16 onwards. **ENS**

Once mocked for being girl child and polio-stricken, debutant Mona wins bronze

NITIN SHARMA
CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 30

AS A child, Mona Aggarwal would be taunted and mocked by relatives and elders about being the third daughter of her family and suffering from polio, which affected both of her legs.

She never let those words affect her. Mona began competing in para-shooting towards the end of 2021. On Friday, the 37-year-old, a mother of two, won a bronze medal at the Paris Paralympics. Mona was the second Indian on the podium after Avani Lekhara defended the gold medal she won in Tokyo, in the women's 10m Air Rifle Standing SH 1 final at the Chateauroux Shooting Range.

As she shot her way to Paralympic glory, Mona's husband Ravindra Chaudhary's mind harked back to the days when she was ridiculed for being the family's third girl child.

"Well, when she was born, those were still the old times and people saw the birth of a girl child as a discouraging one. She was affected with polio and that too was a discouragement for her from the relatives and elders," Chaudhary told *The Indian Express* from Jaipur. "But as she grew in strength, all such things were forgotten by the relatives and elders. To see her win the Paralympics bronze medal is one of the biggest steps in her life and she has shown to the world that girls like her too can become role models for the society as well the whole sporting community."

Growing up, Mona — whose father ran a hardware shop in Sikar — dreamt of pursuing a career in sports. After competing in para-athletics in events like shot put, discus throw and javelin throw at the state level at Jaipur, she shifted to para-weightlifting, where she won the state title in the 60 Kg category after her marriage in 2017.

It was not until the end of 2021 that she first tried her hands at shooting. "Before we got married in 2017, Mona competed in athletics events and would train on her own at Jaipur. She always wanted to be not dependent on anybody and saw para sports as something, which helped her achieve that. I was also training as a para-athlete in Jaipur at that time and when we got married, I supported her in every way to let her achieve her dreams," Chaudhary said.

It was at the Eklavya Sports Shooting Academy in Jaipur that Agarwal first started shooting under coach Yogesh Shekhawat. While she trained initially with Shekhawat's rifle, the coach would be impressed by her judgment of the targets as well as the stillness in her posture during her initial days in the sport.

"As compared to pistol, rifle shooting was better suited for her as she would balance the rifle with both her hands. Since she was a para-weightlifter too, her upper body had the strength to manage the rifle load and it helped her to start shooting at the age of 34. It took us time to find a suitable balanced position for her and it came with a lot of dry shooting," recalls Shekhawat. Dry shooting is an exercise where shooters just point their rifles at the target, without actually taking a shot.

While she worked as a Lower Division Clerk in Jaipur District court earlier, Mona

EXPLAINED What is SH 1 classification

TO SAFEGUARD the competition's integrity, para-sports are divided into different categories. Through this classification, it is determined which athletes are eligible to compete and how those athletes are then grouped together for competition, in order to minimise the impact of those athletes' impairments on sport performance', according to International Paralympic Committee. In rifle events, the SH1 class is designated to athletes with lower limb impairment. In pistol, SH1 is classified for athletes with upper and/or lower limb impairment. **ENS**

and her husband had to cut corners to save more than four lakhs needed for her first rifle — which she purchased in 2022.

First rifle in 2022

"She never thought that what if she did not excel in shooting. She had the faith that whatever she competes, she will give her best and she has rarely taken help from any of her relatives or parents," Chaudhary said. "When we got her first rifle, it cost more than four lakhs but then she would tell me that it was for her passion and we would add more savings. The only problem she faced was travelling with her wheelchair and rifle or tackling non-disabled friendly infrastructure in India."

Last year, Mona won the gold in the Para Shooting World Cup in New Delhi, which also helped her win the Paris quota. She then paired up with Aadithya Giri to claim the mixed team air rifle standing (SH1) event silver medal in Delhi and followed that with another gold in the Para Shooting World Cup in Korea one month later.

Chief national coach JP Nautiyal has also spent time with Mona in the national camp. "In the SH1 category, the main thing is finding the balance between the wheelchair, table and the athlete's position. So we spent a lot of time balancing her posture. We never discussed scores with her and would always imbibe the thought of thinking of one shot at a time and that helped her mindset. The other key was to fine-tune things like the butt plate of the rifle and the small adjustments in the rifle for her. And she showed her talent in last year's two world cups," said Nautiyal.

Back home, Mona's five-year-old daughter Aarvi and three-year-old son Avik are waiting for her return. "Avik was less than one year old when Mona started shooting," says the shooter's husband. "My mother would take care of both the children and Mona did not have to worry about them. Whenever she wins medals, both the kids wear the medals around their necks and roam for hours with the medals. It will be the same this time, too."

Sprinter Preethi finishes third in 100m as India win first-ever track medal at Paralympics

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 30

INDIA'S PREETHI Pal created history by winning India's first-ever Paralympics track medal with a bronze in the women's T35 100m event with a personal best time of 14.21 seconds in Paris on Friday. The 23-year-old Preethi's bronze also marked the first athletics medal of the ongoing event.

China's Zhou Xia (13.58) and Guo Qianqian (13.74) won the gold and silver respectively. T35 classification is meant for athletes who have coordination impairments such as hypertonia, ataxia and athetosis, as well as cerebral palsy.

Preeti, who was born in a farmer's family in Muzaffarpur in Uttar Pradesh, is no stranger to adversity. With weak legs and an irregular leg posture, making her prone to various diseases, Preethi underwent various traditional treatments to strengthen her legs.

At the age of five, she started wearing calipers and wore them for eight years. Despite many doubters, Preeti proved to be a fighter.

Preeti, who will also race in the 200m T35 event, was naturally ecstatic after her triumph. The youngster could scarcely believe that she had medalled at the biggest stage of her career. "This was my first Paralympics and I am still yet to believe that I have won a medal. I am feeling proud that I have won India's first track medal in the Paralympics," she said.

At 17, Preethi's perspective began to shift when she watched the Paralympic



Preethi Pal, who clocked 14.21 seconds, with China's Zhou Xia (left, 13.58s), who won the gold medal, and Guo Qianqian (13.74) at the Stade de France. *Reuters*

Games on social media. She was inspired and realised that she too could pursue her dreams. Paralympic athlete Fatima Khatoon came as a blessing for her at that time. Fatima introduced her to the nuances of the sport and trained her to compete at state-level meets in 2018.

After initially training in Meerut, a sports manufacturing hub that ironically doesn't have a single synthetic track, the youngster moved to Delhi to train under Coach Gajender Singh at the Jawaharlal Lal Nehru Stadium. Together, they focused on refining

her running technique, leading to a significant improvement in her performance.

At the 2023 Asian Para championships in China she had two heartbreaking fourth-place finishes in the 100m and 200m but Preeti came back stronger. Earlier this year, at the World Para Athletics Championships, she excelled winning bronze medals in both the 100m and 200m.

Aarti opens medal account

After a string of disappointing performances by some of the country's brightest jun-

Promising runner Parvej fails dope test

New Delhi: Middle distance runner Parvej Khan, who recently made headlines in the country with his exploits at the NCAA circuit in the United States of America, has been provisionally suspended after failing a dope test. The 19-year-old stares at a ban of four years if he is proved guilty of doping. He was hailed as the new Indian track sensation as he became the first from the country to qualify for the final of a track event in the NCAA Championships of the United States earlier this year. He is currently studying at the University of Florida on scholarships. **PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**

ior athletes, Aarti opened the account with a bronze medal in the 10,000 metres race walk at the Under-20 World Championships in Peru. Aarti, who is also the Under-20 2024 Asian Championships bronze medalist, rewrote the junior national mark with 44 minutes and 39.39 seconds. The top two spots were taken by Chinese walkers Zhuoma Bhaima (43:26.60s) and Meling Chen (44:36.67s). It was a good day for the boy's one lap relay team as they reached the finals clocking a new Under-20 national mark of 3:08.10s.

Lanka seven down in pursuit of England's 427



Gus Atkinson scored a maiden century to power England to 427. *Reuters*

SAM TOBIN LONDON, AUGUST 30

SRI LANKA collapsed to 129-7 at tea on day two of the second test at Lord's on Friday after Gus Atkinson's superb maiden century helped England to post 427 all out.

The visitors lost five wickets in the afternoon session, including the veteran pair of Angelo Mathews and Dinesh Chandimal, and trail by 298 runs.

Olly Stone, in his first test since 2021, picked up his second wicket completing an over he started before lunch, when Pathum Nissanka (12) glanced one to Matthew Potts at leg slip.

Mathews and Chandimal tried to rebuild with a partnership of 48 but a double-wicket maiden from Potts put England on top.

Mathews (22) played around a straight one and captain Dhananjaya de Silva was caught by Harry Brook at second slip for a three-ball duck as Sri Lanka fell to 83-5.

Chandimal (23) then clipped a straight one from Atkinson to Dan Lawrence at leg slip as Sri Lanka slipped further into the mire at 87-6.

Milan Rathnayake (19) counter-attacked until he nicked Chris Woakes to keeper Jamie Smith, leaving Sri Lanka's hopes of avoiding the follow-on with Kamindu Mendis (26 not out).

Sri Lanka lost both openers before lunch, Nishan Madushka (7) chopping a wide delivery from Woakes on to his stumps before Stone removed Dimuth Karunaratne (7) in identical fashion.

England earlier resumed on 358-7 and Atkinson began the day with back-to-back boundaries, clipping Lahiru Kumara's first delivery to fine leg then driving the next through cover.

The 26-year-old was given out lbw from the third ball of an eventful opening over, but was reprieved on review as the ball was travelling down the leg side.

Atkinson moved to 99 with another classy cover drive for four and, unlike Joe Root on day one, needed just three balls to reach three figures with a straight drive to the fence.

Sri Lanka leaked 35 runs off the first five overs before the introduction of Asitha Fernando, who had Potts (21) caught behind by keeper Madushka.

Atkinson fell trying to hit Fernando into the stands, brilliantly caught by Rathnayake on the midwicket boundary for 118 off 115 balls.

Stone (15) was the last man out off Fernando (5-102) as England added 69 to their overnight total.

England won the first test at Old Trafford last week by five wickets. Sri Lanka must win at Lord's to have a chance of winning the three-match series. **REUTERS**

BRIEF SCORES: England 427 all out (Root 143, Atkinson 118; Fernando 5-102, Rathnayake 2-89) lead **Sri Lanka** 129/7 in 33 overs (Mendis 26*, Chandimal 23; Woakes 2-18, Stone 2-47).

“ Today I was playing against the opponent, and I was playing against myself in my mind. A lot of emotions that I couldn't control... I can't be like that if I want to think about (winning) big things, so I have to improve. ”

CARLOS ALCARAZ, AFTER LOSING IN US OPEN SECOND ROUND

Lesson for Alcaraz: Learn to win on a bad day

Shock defeat to World No. 74 shows 21-year-old must emulate ability of the greats to edge past an opponent who has hit 'the zone'

NAMIT KUMAR AUGUST 30

ABOUT AN hour into his second round contest at the US Open, Carlos Alcaraz finally came alive. Against a spirited challenge from Dutchman Botic van de Zandschulp, a solid baseliner but a player ranked 71 spots below the Spaniard, he had been thoroughly outplayed in the first set, before finding the break to go 2-1 up in the second. The New York crowd roared; the inevitable comeback seemed on cards.

It never came. Van de Zandschulp broke back immediately, and Alcaraz slumped to a kind of defeat he has never suffered since breaking through to the top level of this sport, losing 1-6, 5-7, 4-6 to end his Grand Slam season. This is his earliest exit from a Major since his French Open debut in 2021.

While van de Zandschulp put in the greatest performance of his hardly notable career, he did not do so with swashbuckling groundstrokes and unplayable serves, but through baseline precision and resolute defence. It was Alcaraz, instead, who was poor from start to finish.

His critical appraisal of the defeat reflects his performance. "I think my level stayed at the same point all the match, and it wasn't enough to win the match or to give myself the chance to get into the match," he said, per *Reuters*, after the match. "He didn't make a lot of mistakes that I thought he was going to do so I was confused a little bit... I didn't know how to manage that."

It was during the attritional moments of the second set, with the match still in the balance, when it became painfully transparent that Alcaraz was having an off day. Groundstrokes were not finding zip, errors were being sprayed, serves were being easily returned. Alcaraz may suggest that the lesson here is to never allow his level to slip so low, but the greater takeaway may be how to develop the kind of weapons and consistency to allow him to escape with a win over a peaking opponent on a bad day.

Alcaraz's successes have outpaced expectations to the degree that it may be easy to forget that, at 21, he is still slightly inexperienced. Four Majors, and big wins in finals against the greatest player of this sport, have elevated his reputation from prodigy to best player in the world destined to take the reins from Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic.

But the huge disparity between Alcaraz's best and worst tennis is the gap the Spaniard still has to bridge to emulate the fabled 'Big Three'. Countless times during Grand Slams, the greats of the game would use small tweaks and street smarts, to edge past an opponent who had hit 'the zone'.

Djokovic has now developed a class-leading serve that allows him to win free points, and in the worst of circumstances, drag sets into tiebreakers where he would make his opponents blink first. Initially rigid to new technology, Federer began to use a larger racquet so he could introduce more variation and flatter speed to his one-handed backhand that had become a perceived weakness. In response to those targeting his poor second serve, Nadal (and, to an extent, Andy Murray as well) took the riskier route of introducing greater speeds to disrupt opponents.

These changes did not necessarily raise the ceilings of these players, but instead, lifted their floor level.

Wobbles have come and gone for



Carlos Alcaraz's 15-match Grand Slam winning streak halted by a 1-6, 5-7, 4-6 loss to unseeded Dutchman Botic van de Zandschulp.

AP

Alcaraz even during his dream summer. En route to lifting the French Open and Wimbledon, he lost sets when his level fell. In the Paris final, he let a lead slip twice after spraying errors and losing focus. He has survived close scares - the tight four-set second round win against Jesper De Jong at the French Open and the five set escape against Frances Tiafoe at Wimbledon.

Over the years, the champions have used their strong serves to stay in the match and the set into tie-breakers where experience counts. But Alcaraz's serve is not at maximum potential. It is not enough of a tool for him to ride tough moments. On Friday, he won a measly 60% of points behind his first serve.

After a taxing summer, Alcaraz's wavering focus may be excusable; he is still in the first few years of his career playing a full calendar.

But he has been served a crucial lesson. If his phenomenal rise is anything to go by, he should be able to learn it quickly too.

KEY RESULTS (RD OF 64)

Men's singles: B van de Zandschulp bt C Alcaraz 6-1, 7-5, 6-4; J Sinner bt A Michelsen 6-4, 6-0, 6-2; D Medvedev bt F Marozsan 6-3, 6-2, 7-6(5); A de Minaur bt O Virtanen 7-5, 6-1, 7-6(3); J Draper bt F Diaz Acosta 6-4, 6-2, 6-2.
Women's singles: I Swiatek bt E Shibahara 6-0, 6-1; K Muchova bt N Osaka 6-3, 7-6(5); J Pegula bt S Kenin 7-6(4), 6-3; C Wozniacki bt R Zarazua 6-3, 6-3.

Top seeds Swiatek, Sinner advance to third round, Osaka loses to Muchova

ASSOCIATED PRESS NEW YORK, AUGUST 30

IGASWIATEK and Jannik Sinner flashed their No. 1 form with powerful performances that moved them into the third round of the U.S. Open.

Carlos Alcaraz and Naomi Osaka couldn't quite find the games that once had them on top of the rankings. Those past U.S. Open champions were both knocked out Thursday night, with the No. 3-seeded Alcaraz's 15-match Grand Slam winning streak halted by a 6-1, 7-5, 6-4 loss to 74th-ranked Botic van de Zandschulp.

Swiatek raced by Japanese qualifier Ena Shibahara 6-0, 6-1, finishing off the match in 65 minutes. It took the 2022 U.S. Open champion longer than that to play the second set of her first-round match, when she needed a tiebreaker that she eventually closed out in 72 minutes. "I just felt the rhythm was much better," Swiatek said. "I was a bit tense in my last match, so today I just wanted to focus on the right things." Earlier, Sinner downed Alex Michelsen 6-4, 6-0, 6-2 in 1 hour, 39 minutes.

But on the same Arthur Ashe Stadium court at night, Osaka's forehead faltered in key moments and the two-time U.S. Open champion was eliminated by Karolina Muchova 6-3, 7-6(5).

Sinner dropped the first set in his open-



2022 champion Iga Swiatek breezed past Ena Shibahara on Friday. *USA Today*

ing match in New York but didn't encounter much trouble while facing his second straight American on Ashe. The Italian earned his 50th victory of the season, including his ATP Tour-leading 30th on hard courts. His previous one was a little shaky after a slow start against Mackie McDonald, so Sinner got in a practice session after that match and was happy with the results Thursday.

"Trying to keep going, trying to understand what works here best on these courts. Let's see what I can do in the next round," he said. That will be against Christopher O'Connell of Australia on Saturday. No. 5 seed Daniil Medvedev, the 2021 U.S.

Gukesh looks hyper-focused, Liren nervous: Giri

AMIT KAMATH AUGUST 30

THE ONGOING Sinquefeld Cup in St Louis has given the world a chance to observe both Ding Liren and Gukesh compete in the classical format before their much-anticipated clash in Singapore with the world champion's crown on the line.

Ever since he became world champion, there has been plenty of chatter about the shape that world champion Ding Liren is in, both physically and mentally. Not just the one-on-one clash between Gukesh and Ding, the rest of the tournament too has piqued interest among fans and players to get a sense of the level both players are at. Grandmaster Anish Giri, who is also competing at the event and has had a chance to see both players up close, gave an insight.

"Gukesh has been looking, for many months now, extremely tense and extremely focused. Hyper-focused! I was reaching that stage as a kid at some point as well. But I felt that this hyper-focus is too much. I felt like you're risking burning yourself out if you're that way. Maybe, I'm wrong. Maybe, Gukesh can handle it. Maybe, that's what he needs to become world champion. Gukesh looks fit, he's playing quite well, not without mistakes. I believe he has all the chances (of becoming World Champion)," Anish told *The*



D Gukesh will take on Ding Liren in the World Championship match. *File*

Indian Express from St Louis.

Talking about Gukesh's opponent in the World Championship, Anish said: "What surprises me about Ding is that his level of play is actually quite high at the moment in this tournament (Sinquefeld Cup). But you do still see that his physical condition is not top notch. I can see it, you can hear it

in the way he sits at the board: he starts to move a little bit on the chair. You see it in the way he breathes or coughs; he coughs in a way that you realise that it's not that he's got a cold, but it's a nervous cough. You can see how nervous and anxious he is. He's sometimes shaking a little bit," Anish observes.

"It's just these incredible physiological signs of weakness. It's quite intuitive, the science when people look very nervous and can't fully control themselves. If you see it from up close, you'll definitely notice it. Even if you're playing on some other board, you keep hearing some coughs every now and then just notice that there's a person in the room who is very nervous. Yet, he's able to improve his chess level."

Try to be calm

Gukesh's immense concentration could be a double-edged sword, Anish felt.

"Gukesh being hyper-focused could be an issue because maybe at some point, he will be upset or angry if he loses," said the Dutchman, who will be in action in the second edition of the Global Chess League for the PBG Alaskan Knights franchise.

Ahead of the final round to be played on Wednesday night, Gukesh was tied third with four other players including R Praggnanandhaa.

Ding, meanwhile, is tied eight while Anish is last in the 10-player field.

Mbappe misfires again as Madrid held to 1-1 draw

ASSOCIATED PRESS MADRID, AUGUST 30

KYLIAN MBAPPÉ remained scoreless and defending champion Real Madrid settled for a 1-1 draw at Las Palmas in the Spanish league.

Mbappé, Madrid's biggest signing in years, is yet to score in the league this season. His only goal with Madrid came in the team's UEFA Super Cup victory against Atalanta earlier this month. It was Vinicius Junior who scored for Madrid, which beat Valladolid 3-0 in the previous round but had opened its title defense with a 1-1 draw at Mallorca.

"It's been difficult for us to be as solid as we were last season," Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti said. "We need to find a solution quickly, and I think we are going to find it. It has been harder than expected. These first three matches showed me a lot of things that have not been working well." Vinicius found the net for his first league goal this season by converting a 69th-minute penalty kick after a handball inside the area.

The hosts had taken the lead five minutes into the match after Alberto Moleiro got past a couple of defenders before finding the net



from inside the area.

Young Brazil forward Endrick, who scored against Valladolid in his debut, came off the bench in the 86th to replace Vinicius Junior.

Barcelona on Tuesday became the only team with three wins in the first three rounds after a 2-1 victory at Rayo Vallecano.

No excuses: Ancelotti

Reuters adds: Real Madrid manager Carlo Ancelotti said on Thursday there was no excuse for his side's slow start to the LaLiga season after the team fought back to rescue a 1-1 draw at lowly Las Palmas thanks to a Vinicius Jr goal late in the second half.

Ancelotti said he expected his team to play better together and blamed himself, saying that he needs to work harder and do a better job. "It is clear that we are struggling to find the soundness of last season. But we must not look for excuses. The schedule is tight and we have to recover quickly, because on Sunday we have another game," Ancelotti told a news conference.

"I need to have a clearer strategy, to give the players more clarity in what I want. It's costing us more than we thought. We have to work and concentrate on the path we want to take."



mahindra^{Rise}

We Didn't Just Raise The Bar,
We Redefined It.



*EX-SHOWROOM PRICE OF MX1 VARIANT (ALL-INDIA)



BOOK NOW

XUV 3XO

EVERYTHING YOU WANT
& MORE

Visit: auto.mahindra.com

Price starts at
₹7.49 Lakh*

FIRST IN
SEGMENT

◆ LEVEL 2 ADAS

◆ ADRENEXTM WITH 80+ FEATURES
CONNECT

◆ SKYROOFTM

DISCLAIMER: CREATIVE VISUALIZATION. FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSE ONLY. LEVEL 2 ADVANCED DRIVER ASSISTANCE SYSTEM (ADAS), ADRENEX AND SKYROOFTM IS AVAILABLE IN SELECT VARIANTS OF MAHINDRA XUV 3XO AND IS FIRST IN UVC SEGMENT.

SAY HELLO TO OUR GLOBAL PARTNERS

